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WORLD / A27
British PM Blair announces he's leaving office by June 27

NEWS / A2
Comelec: Joselito Cayetano still candidate

BUSINESS / B5
Political ads boost ABS-CBN Q1 net income to P280M

NEWS / A3
Miriam: All 12 Senate winners bought their seats

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BA [illegible] NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

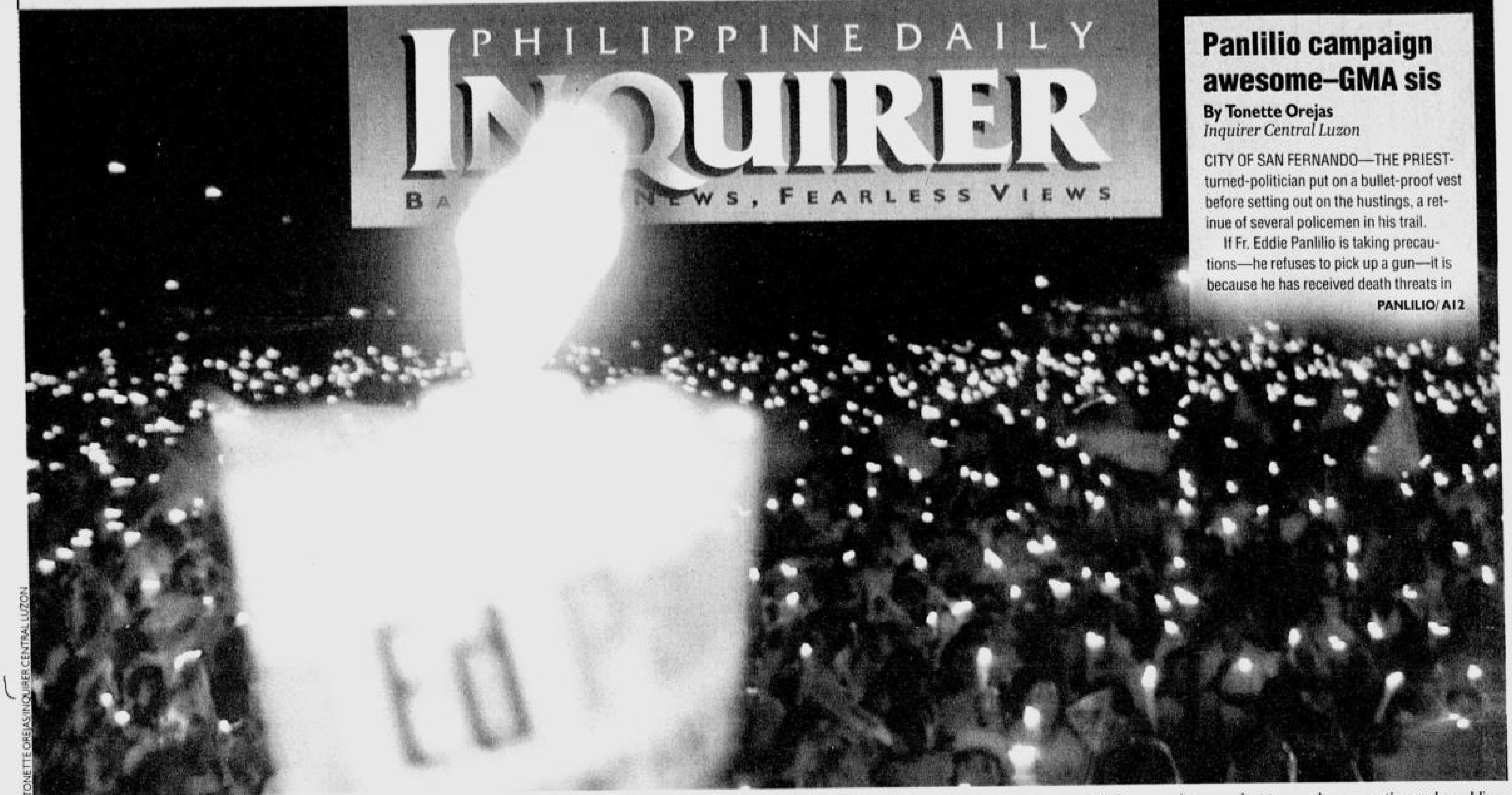
Panlilio campaign awesome–GMA sis

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE PRIEST-turned-politician put on a bullet-proof vest before setting out on the hustings, a retinue of several policemen in his trail.

If Fr. Eddie Panlilio is taking precautions—he refuses to pick up a gun—it is because he has received death threats in

PANLILIO/ A12



TONETTE OREJAS/INQUIRER CENTRAL LUZON

ED SA PAMPANGA: The march of Kapampangan Heroes in San Fernando, organized by the supporters of Catholic priest Eddie Panlilio, glows with all the hopes of all the years that were lost to massive corruption and gambling.

17 groups poised to win

Bayan Muna, Akbayan lead in latest SWS survey

EXCLUSIVE

ONLY 17 OF THE 93 PARTY-LIST GROUPS COULD WIN SEATS in the House of Representatives, according to results of a nationwide survey conducted by Social Weather Stations on May 2-4.

Bayan Muna (8.4 percent) still led the list, followed by Akbayan (8.2 percent).

Although the number of votes they got last week declined from last month's 10.4 percent (Bayan Muna) and 9.8 percent (Akbayan), the two groups could retain their current three seats each.

Under the 2-percent rule, a group that gets 2 percent of the votes cast for the party-list system is entitled to one seat in the House, according to SWS. A group can have a maximum of three seats, or 6 percent of the votes.

Under this rule, the 17 party-list groups could take a total of 23 seats in the House.

However, the Supreme Court's "Veterans Formula," in its October 2000 decision in Veterans Federation Party v the Commission on Elections, provides that the allocation of seats to party-list groups depends on the total number of votes garnered by the top party-list.

Other party-list groups that made the cut were Luzon Farmers Party (Butil, 4.9 percent), Buhay Hayaan Yumabong (Buhay, 4.2 percent), Gabriela (3.9 percent), Advocacy for Teacher Empowerment Through Action, Cooperation and

17 PARTY-LIST/ A10

MAGIC CIRCLE

	MAY 2-4 '07 (93 groups)
(No. of Registered Voters (in 000))	45,030
(% who voted for a PL group)	53.0%
(Est. count of votes for PL (in 000))	23,864
Group	
BAYAN MUNA	8.4
AKBAYAN	8.2
BUTIL	4.9
BUHAY	4.2
GABRIELA	3.9
A TEACHER	3.6
AHON	3.5
CIBAC	3.4
AT (AANGAT TAYO)	3.0
AGAP	2.7
ANAKPAWIS	2.7
AHONBAYAN	2.6
COOP-NATCCO	2.3
ABAKADA	2.2
KABATAAN	2.1
AMIN	2.1
KAKUSA	2.0

SOURCE: SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS

MOTHERS' DAY: Former President Cory Aquino receives a rose from Edith Burgos, mother of missing activist Jonas Burgos, who leads mothers of the disappeared in a unique visitation-rally on Thursday at the homes of prominent mothers to draw attention to their missing loved ones. *(Story on Page A2.)*

SWS, Pulse Asia did very well predicting poll results

By Minerva Generalao
Head, Inquirer Research

CAN SURVEYS PREDICT RESULTS?

Social Weather Stations and Pulse Asia Inc. did very well in predicting the results of the elections for president, vice president and senators in 2004, according to Romulo A. Virola, secretary general of the National Statistical Coordination Board.

Virola, who did a study on how well the two survey firms fared in predicting the winners just months after the May 2004 elections, compared the results of the last surveys that SWS and Pulse Asia conducted before the elections with the winners in the polls.

Virola said his assessment showed that SWS successfully predicted all the winners, while Pulse Asia correctly predicted all but one of the winners.

His overall verdict? It was a tie.

He gave both the SWS May 1-4, 2004, survey and the Pulse Asia April 26-29, 2004, survey a rating of 90 percent based on the winning candidates at the national level.

In his report posted on the NSCB website (http://www.nscb.gov.ph/headlines/StatsSpeak/071204_rav_polls.asp)

SURVEY/ A8

Ailing GMA skips final TU rallies

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Michael Lim Ubac

TEAM UNITY'S DOUBLE "MITING DE avance" in Cebu City on Wednesday and in Iloilo City yesterday took place without President Macapagal-Arroyo, who was afflicted with diarrhea, dehydration and fever.

Her image director Lupita Aquino-Kashiwahara yesterday said the President felt very weak on Wednesday after enduring the searing heat in Bohol,

AILING/ A9

Noynoy gets heady dose of 'Cory magic'

By Norman Bordadora

TWENTY-ONE YEARS AFTER SHE emerged the heroine of the People Power revolt that toppled the Marcos dictatorship, Corazon Aquino appears to have proven that the "Cory magic" lingers.

The former President is being credited with giving the sluggish campaign of her only son, Genuine Opposition senatorial candidate Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, a vigorous push. The TV ads showing her assuring Filipinos that Noynoy would make a good senator, or *"lagot siya sa nanay niya* (he'd have to answer to his mom)," are said to have done the trick.

Before his mother endorsed him on TV and radio and on the campaign trail, Noynoy had contented himself with plugs from his sister, popular TV host Kris Aquino. But his awareness and endearment ratings were far from satisfactory.

NOYNOY/ A12

102 dead so far; PNP sees rise in violence

SPECIAL REPORT

By Alcuin Papa

THE FINAL WEEK LEADING TO THE MAY 14 elections promises more violence.

"We are anticipating the situation to heat up. Our work load will increase," Director General Oscar Calderon of the Philippine National Police told the INQUIRER.

Director Wilfredo Garcia of the PNP Directorate for Operations said that while there was a historical precedent to stepped-up violence in the run-up to the balloting, the PNP was hoping the number of incidents would be "very much lower."

As of yesterday, election-related violence had left more than 102 dead. In the 2004 elections, 149 people died. In 2001, the body count was 111. Eighty-seven were killed during the 1998 polls, 83 in the 1995 elections and 56 in 1992. *(See related story on Page A7.)*

The 118,000-strong PNP will be at the forefront of security operations in the coming elections after the defense department and the Commission on Elections (Comelec) decided in October to limit the role played by the military.

But as things stand, the undermanned PNP said the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) will have to help with security in the elections. Already, some military

102 DEAD/ A20

Erap gloats over Chavit's No. 25 rank in SWS survey

DEPOSED PRESIDENT JOSEPH Estrada seems highly pleased with the results of the latest Social Weather Stations survey showing six senatorial candidates of the Genuine Opposition (GO) in the Magic 12 compared to only four from the administration's Team Unity (TU) and two independents.

What the detained opposition leader, however, appears to savor most is the dismal showing of his compadre-turned-archenemy, TU's Luis "Chavit" Singson, who found himself mired at No. 25 in the final SWS preelection survey.

Among the 24 candidates of GO and TU, Singson only managed to turn out a better performance than the lesser known Jamalul Kiram of TU, who ranked No. 26.

ERAP GLOATS/ A12

MASAYA DAHIL NAKULELAT SI CHAVIT

JDV running 'scared' in Pangasinan

By Gabriel Cardinoza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

DAGUPAN CITY—MAYOR BENJAMIN Lim once told his wife Celia that if he were to die today, he would have a smile on his face.

When his surprised wife asked him why, he said: "Because I'm fighting Joe de Venecia."

JDV/ A12

EZ2 SIX DIGIT
7 12 | 0 8 5 9 5 3
Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening
8 5 6 | 0 9 9
(All in exact order)
SUPERLOTTO 6/49
13 14 16 17 18 36
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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms while Mindanao will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

COMPILED BY: LAW DE GUZMAN, INQUIRER RESEARCH/05/10/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

AFP scored for 'lies' on Burgos

Joselito Cayetano still a candidate

THOUGH HE HAS BEEN DECLARED A NUISANCE candidate by the Commission on Elections, Kilusang Bagong Lipunan senatorial bet Joselito Peter Cayetano is far from being out of the picture.

In a resolution released last night, the Comelec en banc said Joselito had filed an appeal within the prescribed five-day period, hence the earlier decision canceling his candidacy was not yet final.

This means Joselito's name will still appear on the Comelec's list of candidates on May 14.

Genuine Opposition senatorial candidate Alan Peter Cayetano petitioned the Comelec to declare his namesake a nuisance candidate.

In an order dated March 27, the Comelec's Special First Division declared Joselito a nuisance candidate and canceled his certificate of candidacy.

Joselito filed a motion for reconsideration five days later on April 2.

Fifteen days later, Alan filed an opposing motion asking the poll body to declare its earlier decision as final and executory.

But in yesterday's resolution, the Comelec en banc said Alan's motion was "bereft of merit" as Joselito's motion for reconsideration was filed within the prescribed period. *Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

By TJ Burgonio
and Christine O. Avendaño

MILITANT GROUPS YESTERDAY scoffed at the military's claim the license plates on the vehicle used in the April 28 abduction of Jonas Joseph Burgos had been stolen by Left-wing peasants from an impounded jeep parked in an Army camp.

"The AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) is trying again to hide its complicity while blaming the victim's associates," Carl Ala, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) information officer, said in a statement.

"We are the ones aggrieved; why is the AFP blaming us?" he said.

An agriculturist, Burgos, 37, is the son of the late martial law press freedom fighter Jose "Joe" Burgos. He had been conducting technical training on sustainable farming to members of the Alyansang Magbubukid ng Bulacan (AMB), the local KMP chapter, since 1999.

Seized jeep

The military said Wednesday the license plates (TAB 194) had been taken by members of the militant urban poor group Kadamay from a jeep that had been parked at the Army's 56th Infantry Battalion headquarters in Norzagaray, Bulacan, since June 24, 2006.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials had said a jeep with the same plate number was seized as evidence by a joint DENR-Army team after it was used in illegal logging operations.

Witnesses told police Burgos was dragged into a Toyota Revo with Plate No. TAB 194 from the Ever Gotesco mall in Quezon City.

Maj. Gen. Juanito Gomez, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division based in Nueva Ecija which has jurisdiction over Central Luzon, said the plates were apparently stolen when the entire 56th IB was away on training between November last year and March this year.

"It was only recently that we discovered the plates were stolen," Gomez said in a phone interview.

'Blatant lies'

The militant group Bagong Alyansang Makabayan assailed the military for spinning "blatant lies."

"The reaction of the military is absurd. Instead of investigating the involvement of the Army, they are saying it was the communists or local activists who stole the plates," Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes said in a statement.

"What's their next alibi—that Burgos was abducted by his fellow activists?"

It will be a different Mother's Day celebration, meanwhile, for Burgos' mother Edith, as well as the mothers of other activists who have "disappeared."

Seeking strength in each other, the mothers led by Burgos called on prominent mothers "in a plea for solidarity and support in the cause of helping the anguished mothers of the disappeared."

Comfort from Cory

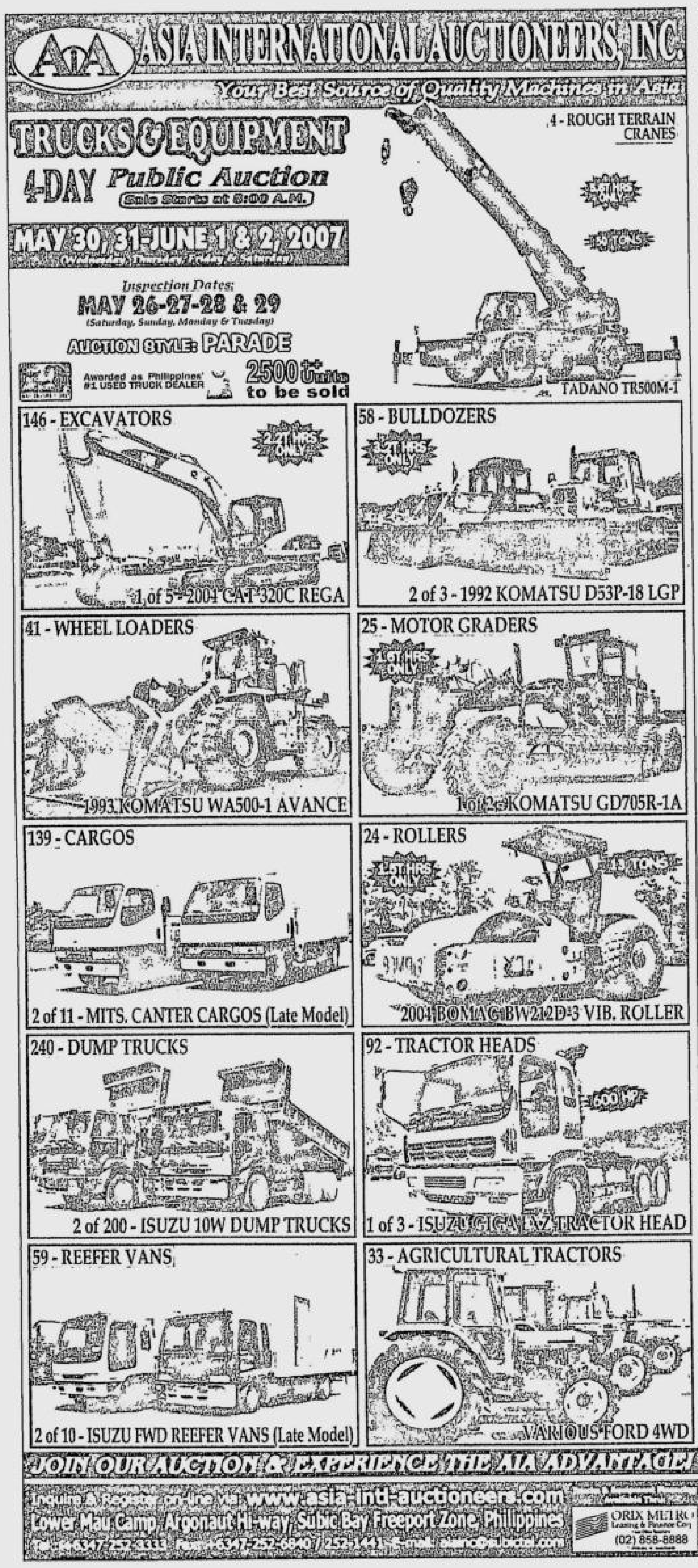
Accompanied by two of her children, Jose Luis and Ann, Burgos and the other mothers' first stop yesterday morning was the home of former President Corazon Aquino in Quezon City.

"I can just imagine how you feel," Aquino told Burgos. "It hurt me so much when Ninoy died, but my mother-in-law told me it hurt more for a mother to lose her son."

Burgos then told Aquino about the military's "ridiculous" claim the license plates on the vehicle used to abduct her son had been stolen by "troublemakers."

"Just like how it (the Marcos regime) said that Rolando Galman had killed Ninoy," Aquino replied, referring to the man the military insisted assassinated her husband.

"I am holding them (the military) responsible for my son's disappearance. All the circumstantial evidence points to them," Edith stressed. *With Margaux C. Ortiz*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KOMATSU GD705R-1A
139 - CARGOS
2 of 11 - MITS. CANTER CARGOS (Late Model)
24 - ROLLERS
2004 BOMAG BW212D-3 VIB. ROLLER
240 - DUMP TRUCKS
2 of 200 - ISUZU 10W DUMP TRUCKS
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1 of 3 - ISUZU GIGA 6X4 TRACTOR HEAD
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All 12 Senate winners are 'criminals' – Miriam

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

SEN. MIRIAM DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO is seriously considering quitting the Senate, saying she cannot stomach serving with 12 new senators who literally bought their way into winning a farce of an election that has become "a battle of billionaires."

"By July 22 when the 14th Congress opens, I will have at least 12 colleagues in the Senate who all have bought their position. I don't belong in that league, I don't have enough money," said Santiago in a phone interview.

Santiago's rant followed on senatorial candidate Victor Wood's complaint against the commercialization of the elections that has favored popular and moneyed candidates.

Wood said the only clear winners in this year's elections were the giant broadcast networks, the GMA Network and ABS CBN Broadcasting, which have been raking it in from candidates' ad spending.

"The people with the most money will win. That is why I am thinking of resigning and registering a protest against farcical elections like this one we're having. It has turned into a contest among billionaires. There is no ideology, no theory, no policy. I don't see any policy discussion taking place, all personality," Santiago said.

She said the candidates have focused their spending on three areas that would require hundreds of millions of pesos—political advertisements on television and radio; bribing mayors to include them on the sample ballots; and paying off a supposed syndicate in the Commission on Elections to either protect or pad their votes or reduce a rival's votes.

"If this is the case, definitely not one among the new candidates by July would have remained within the spending limits imposed by law. He has started his career in the Senate as a criminal by breaking the election law,'" said Santiago.

Since the bribery of local officials and the Comelec syndicate would be hard to prove, Santiago said the massive spending on TV ads alone should justify the "declaration of failure of elections."

She is thinking of resigning because she does not believe anything will come out of her railing against the practice.

"My own colleagues will simply cross-examine and show me up. I will be challenged to put up hard evidence but the method of proof here is different from a court of law. There is no need for physical or testimonial evidence, only rational evidence is necessary," Santiago said.

Santiago also vented her ire at GMA and ABS CBN for "bastardizing the electoral process and actively contributing to the mercenary process of turning elections into a public auction."

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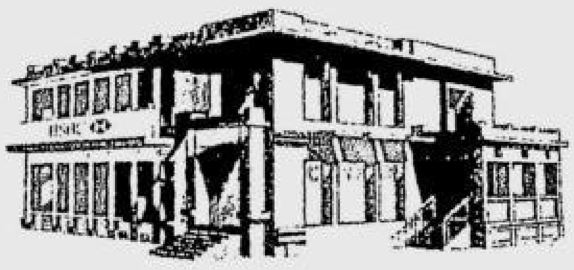

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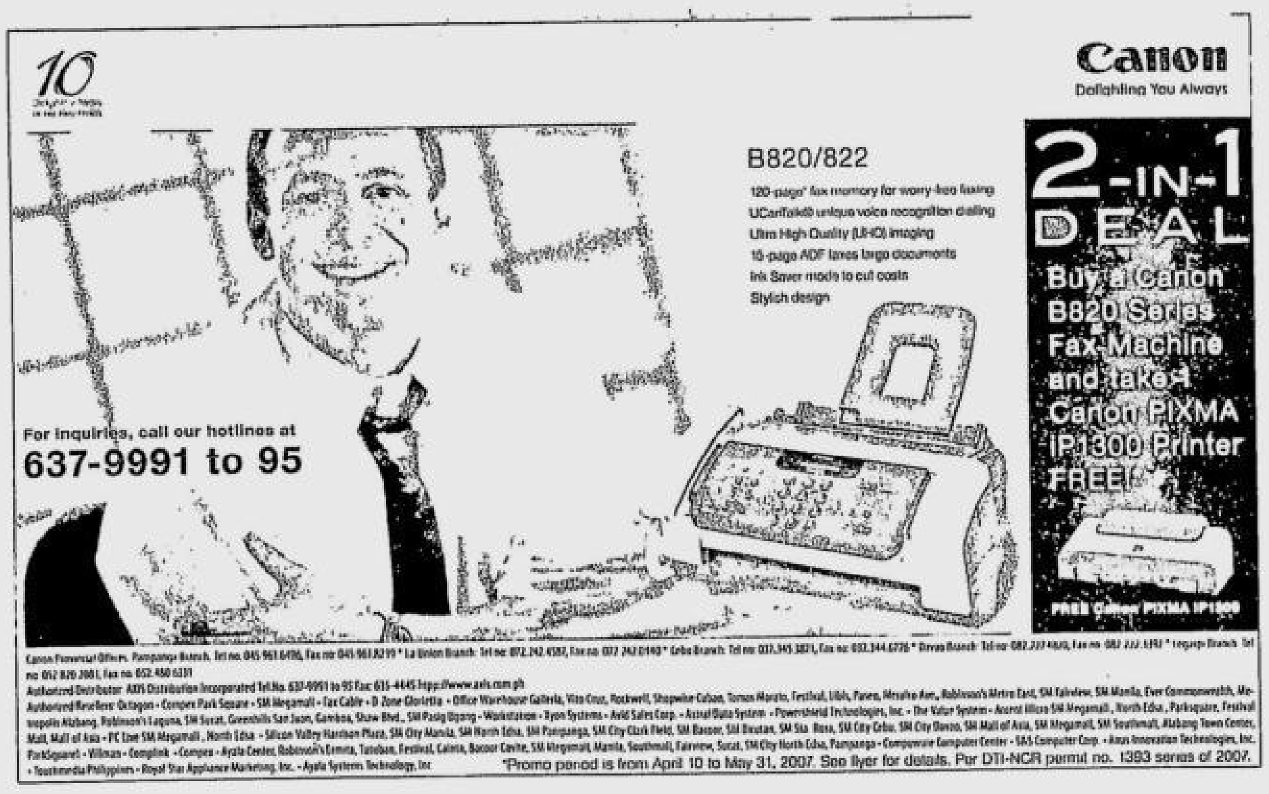
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Nur starts campaign, calls for end to violence

JOLO, SULU—MORO LEADER NUR MISUARI rallied Tausug voters behind his gubernatorial bid on Wednesday, saying his victory would mean the end of the cycle of violence in Sulu.

"I will stop this senseless fighting in our homeland, if possible," he said over Radyo ng Bayan.

The former chair of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) has been charged with rebellion in connection with the 2001 bloody uprising he led here and in Zamboanga City. He spent several years under military detention in Laguna before the courts granted him house arrest in Quezon City in May last year.

Misuari is a candidate of Kabalikat ng mga Mamamayang Pilipino (Kampi), the party of President Macapagal-Arroyo. He is running against incumbent Gov. Benjamin Loong of Lakas-CMD and Sakur Tan, also of Kampi.

"Fighting has brought too much discomfort to the people and ending it should be the priority," Misuari said.

For several months now, his followers have been battling soldiers pursuing Abu Sayyaf bandits in several areas of the province. The latest clashes have displaced over 40,000 families.

On Tuesday, five followers of MNLF official Ustadz Habier Malik were killed by soldiers on a "clearing" mission in Barangay Kambing, Kalinggalang Caluang town, according to Maj. Eugene Batara, spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command.

Malik's group was responsible for holding at least 25 government officials, including Maj. Gen. Ben Dolorfino of the National Capital Region Command, hostage for two days in February.

Misuari said the MNLF would continue to "defend ourselves and not be cowed because we cannot enter paradise if we will tolerate that."

The Moro leader also said he would end corruption in the provincial government. He cited the alleged misuse of the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA), each province's share in the national government budget. *Ed General, Inquirer Mindanao*

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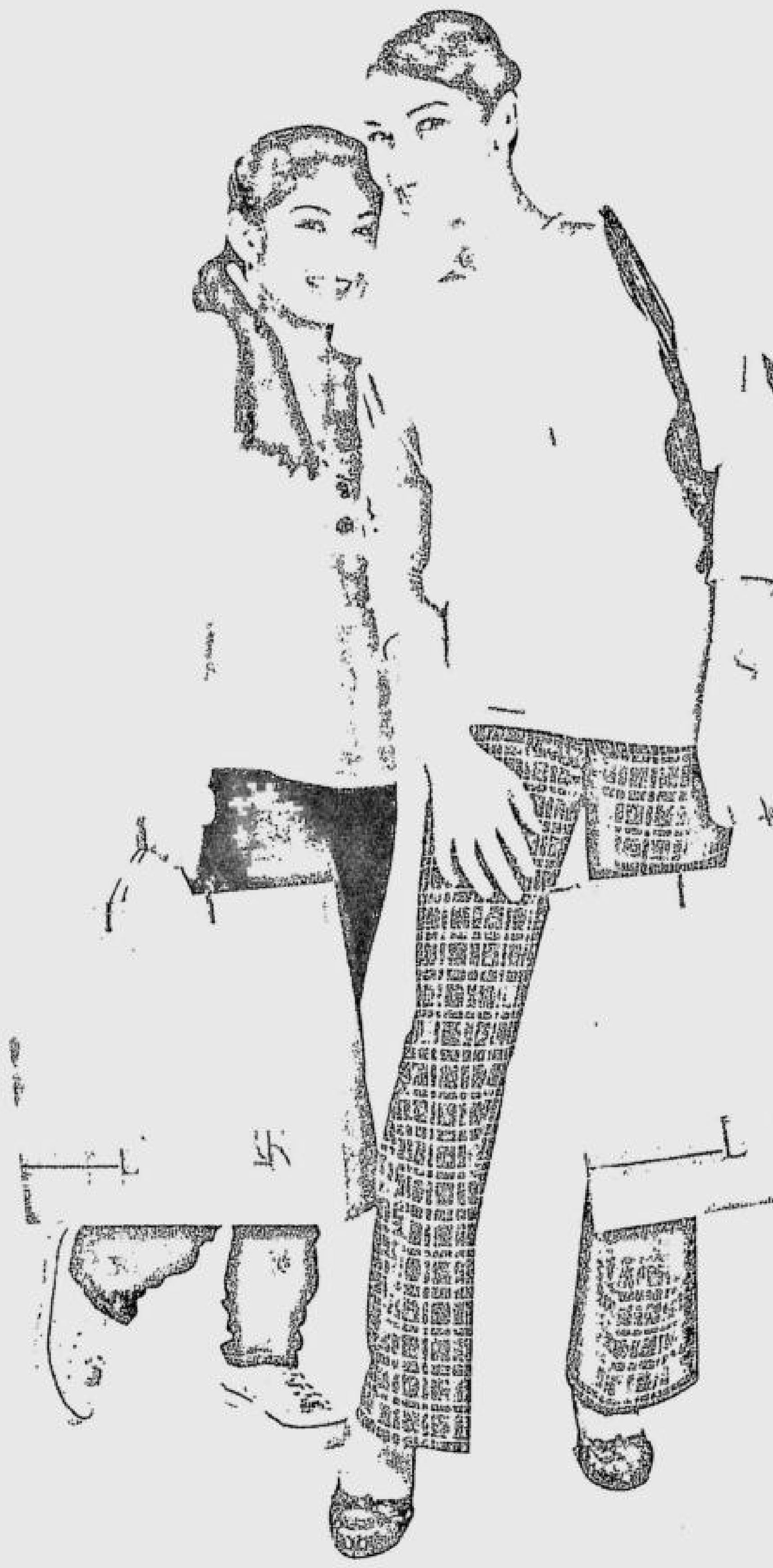

THE LANDMARK

Per DTI NCR Permit # A1-319 Series of 2007

No arrangement yet for Erap's casting his vote

DEPOSED PRESIDENT JOSEPH ESTRADA assumes that he will be voting in his Tanay, Rizal rest house on Monday.

But four days before the balloting, no arrangements have been made for Estrada, who remains an important political force in the country, to be able to exercise his right to vote, his lawyers said.

In the May 2001 senatorial and 2004 national elections, Estrada filed a petition asking the Sandiganbayan antigraft court to allow him to vote in Greenhills, San Juan, where he is registered.

The Sandiganbayan Special Division rejected his petition but allowed Estrada to vote in his detention quarters under the supervision of the Commission on Elections.

Lawyer Jay Flaminiano said, however, that he and other defense lawyers have not filed any motion with the court concerning the May 14 elections as they have not received any orders from Estrada to do so.

"It is too late for that now," Flaminiano said in a phone interview.

Rene Saguisag, Estrada's lead counsel, also could not say if arrangements had been made with the Comelec.

Sandiganbayan Sheriff Ed Urieta said that the matter of Estrada's exercising his vote while in detention was under the court's jurisdiction with the supervision of Comelec representatives from San Juan, the police and the sheriff's office.

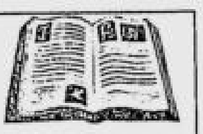
But Estrada yesterday said he assumed Comelec representatives would be going to his Tanay vacation estate on Monday like they did in the previous elections, even without his filing a request with the court that is trying him for plunder.

"It would be better if they will let me cast my ballot in San Juan," Estrada said in a phone interview, vowing to vote straight for the Genuine Opposition.

The 70-year-old disgraced leader was ecstatic over the news that the influential Iglesia Ni Cristo sect has pledged support for Sen. Alfredo Lim, who is running for mayor in Manila, an administration bailiwick.

"I just received a call from him...I'm very happy, at least I am 100 percent sure that he will be the next mayor [of Manila]," Estrada said. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

THE DAILY GOSPEL



Friday, May 11, 2007
5th Week of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 15:22-31
Gospel: John 15:12-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, to give one's life for one's friends; and you are my friends if you do what I command you.

"I shall not call you servants any more, because servants do not know what their master is about. Instead I have called you friends, since I have made known to you everything I learned from my Father.

"You did not choose me; it was I who chose you and sent you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. And everything you ask the Father in my name, he will give you.

"This is my command, that you love one another."

Commentary

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Death toll in election violence now at 102

By Alcuin Papa

THE DEATH TOLL IN THE RUN-UP TO THE MAY 14 elections has breached the century mark.

The Philippine National Police reported 102 dead and 105 injured as of Wednesday in election-related violence all over the country.

Of those killed, 55 were politicians and candidates while 47 were their supporters and bystanders.

The latest incident occurred Wednesday night in Tupi, South Cotabato, where a supporter of reelectionist Rep. Darlene Antonino-Custodio identified as Hilario Sidon was shot dead after a campaign rally.

Earlier, in Zamboanga del Norte, a driver of Siocon Mayor Cesar Soriano, Rolly Guarderama, was killed in an ambush in the town.

On Wednesday morning in Compostela Valley three men shot and killed Ernie Tatoy, 41, a political coordinator for Chiongke Uy who is running for governor of the province.

Still, PNP Director Oscar Calderon assured the public yesterday Monday's elections will be peaceful.

"We will make democracy work," Calderon said, adding that the PNP had "completed all security preparations to protect the will of the electorate."

Director Wilfredo Garcia, chief of the PNP's Directorate for Operations, said "it's all systems go" for the elections. He said the PNP will go on full alert on Saturday.

Calderon was on the last leg of a provincial inspection tour.

He said Masbate, the latest province placed under Commission on Elections control, was "relatively peaceful this year."

"We were able to initiate preemptive measures ahead of time, including the deployment of police commandos and military forces in towns with serious armed threats from insurgents and partisan armed groups," he said.

Other provinces placed under Comelec control were Abra, Nueva Ecija and Kalinga, and San Carlos City in Pangasinan.

But as Calderon was making his statement, police raided on Thursday a compound owned by Nelson Ramos, a mayoral candidate in Mobo, Masbate.

Criminal Investigation and Detection Group agents armed with a search warrant seized a .22-cal. rifle, a .45-cal. pistol, a .38-cal revolver and a homemade shotgun.

Serge O back

By Dona Pazzibugan

EVEN A HEART PROCEDURE COULD NOT keep Sen. Sergio Osmeña III away from work.

Osmeña returned to being campaign manager of the Genuine Opposition senatorial ticket on May 8, just a day after he was discharged from hospital.

Osmeña, 63, who has been described by GO officials as a workaholic, resumed work despite the advice of GO campaign leaders that he take it easy.

He did not look any worse from the coronary angioplasty, a procedure that involves the mechanical widening of an obstructed artery, that he underwent.

He walked without assistance and appeared to have lost some weight.

Osmeña had the surgery last May 3 shortly after he was rushed to the Makati Medical Center after he experienced "chest pains."

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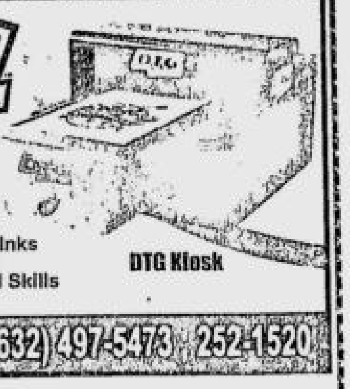

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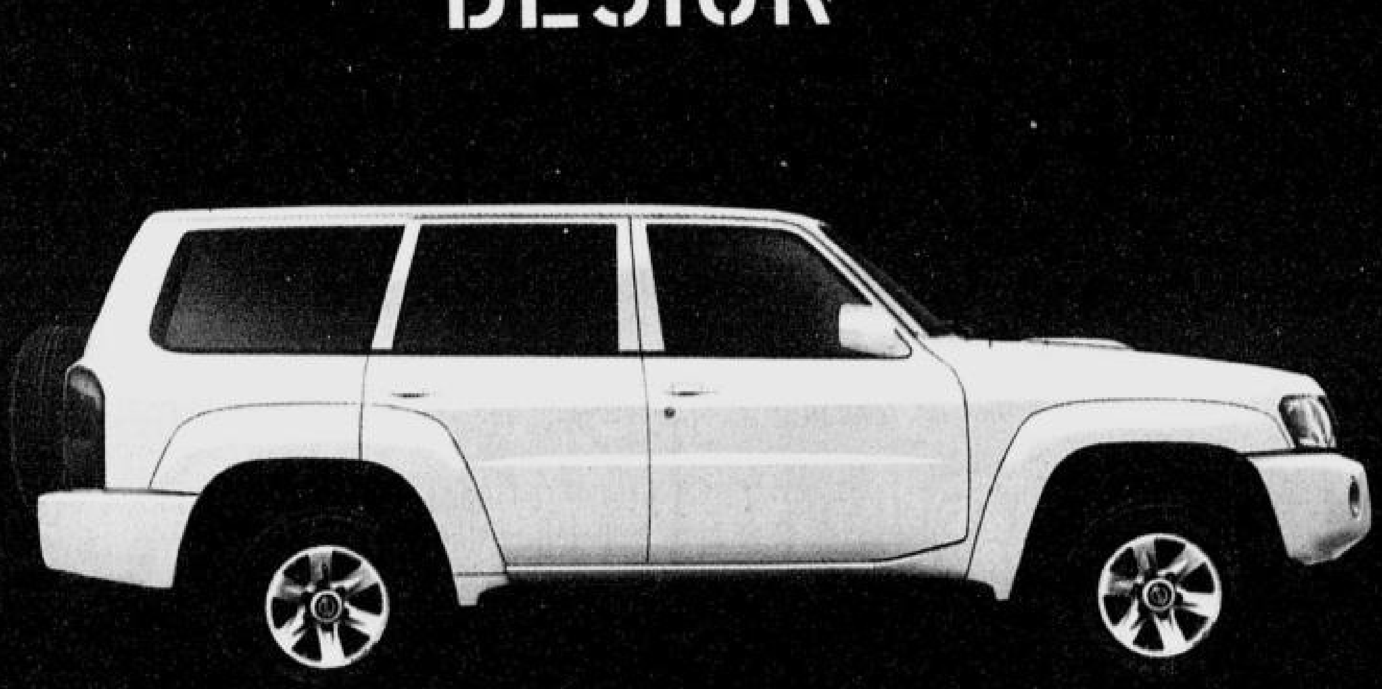

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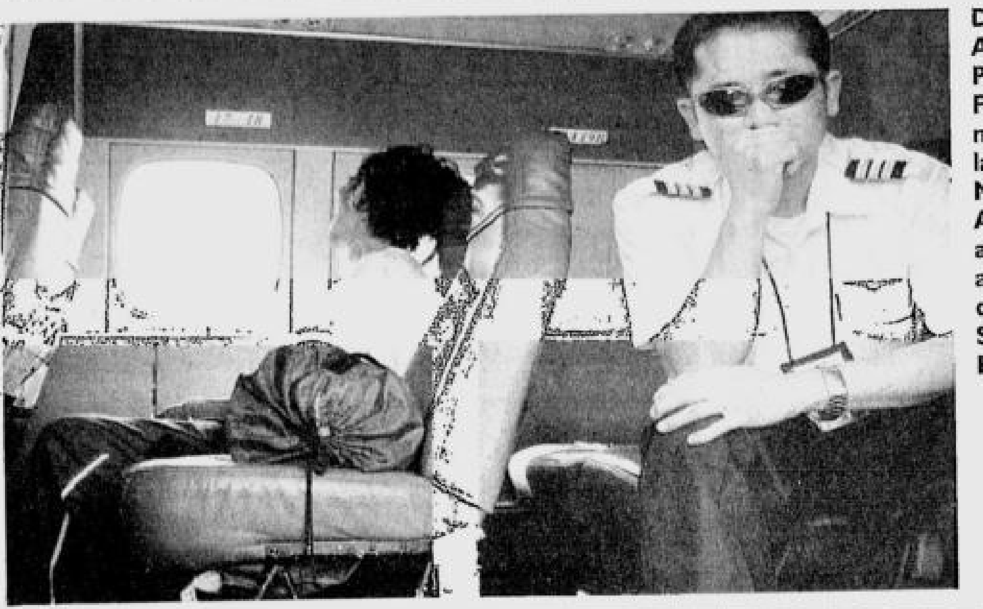

DEAD ON ARRIVAL: Passenger Reggie Felanino, 56, never made it to a happy landing at the Manila Domestic Airport. He apparently suffered a heart attack during his flight on a Seair plane from Palawan. JESS YUSON

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Survey outfits consistent in predicting poll results

From page A1

in July 2004, Virola said, "If these surveys were the work of my students at the UP School of Statistics, I would give the following grades: SWS—1.5 and Pulse Asia—1.5."

Asked if she agreed with Virola's assessment, Ana Maria L. Tabunda, executive director of Pulse Asia, said she was happy with Virola's ratings but added, half-jokingly, not with the grade.

Tabunda, who is also a member of the faculty at the UP School of Statistics and had served as its dean, said that using UP's grading scale, a rating of 90 percent was equivalent to a grade of 1.25—the cutoff for summa cum laude graduates.

She said Pulse Asia correctly got 11 of the 12 winners in the senatorial election of 2004 and 12 of the 13 winners in 2001, a rating of 91.7 percent and 92.3 percent, respectively.

Ejercito and Cayetano

Tabunda said Pulse Asia missed Loi Ejercito in 2001 and Pia Cayetano in 2004.

She said it was easy to explain why Pulse Asia missed Cayetano, who joined the winners' circle after the airing on TV of the life story of her father, the late Sen. Renato Cayetano.

As for missing Ejercito, Tabunda said the arrest of her husband, deposed President Joseph Estrada, which happened after the survey, got a lot of sympathy votes for her.

Candidates often would do everything they could to get votes on the last days before an election, the Pulse Asia executive said. The closer the survey to Election Day, the more accurate the results.

Pretty good

But on the whole, Tabunda said she was quite happy with Pulse Asia's "pretty good" ratings considering that a lot could still happen after a survey had been conducted just before the elections.

Tabunda was also satisfied with the results when the margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points was considered.

"This margin is quite high and could translate to a plus or minus difference in votes of up to about 1.2 million.

But the difference in voters' preference estimates in highly contested senatorial elections could only be a fraction of a percentage point, or just 10,000 to 40,000 votes.

In a 2001 report, Opinion Polling and National Elections in the Philippines, 1992-2001, SWS noted this inherent difficulty in predicting the outcome of highly contested senatorial elections.

SWS gave as example the case of the 1992 senatorial elections (where 24 senators were elected). The difference between No. 24 (Butz Aquino), who had 18.9 percent, and No. 25 (Alran Bengzon), who had 17.5 percent, was just 1.4 percentage points.

This difference could have been statistically detected only by a national sample size of at least 5,000 respondents, according to SWS. But the sample size of SWS and Pulse Asia surveys ranged only from 1,200 to 1,500 respondents.

Despite this, SWS has been consistently successful in predicting the outcomes of senatorial and other national elections, according to SWS vice president Linda Luz Guerrero.

Guerrero mentioned the 2001 report presented by SWS during the Wapor International Conference in Rome that showed the polling group's track record.

SWS reported to the World Association for Public Opinion Research delegates that despite the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcomes of senatorial elections because of the small samples, "all SWS predictions which were statistically conclusive have also turned out correct."

Of the 24 senators elected in 1992, nine of the first 12 and 20 of those in the Magic 24 were identified by SWS in the final preelection survey. All of the top 12 in the May 2-4, 1998, SWS survey won although only the top 10 were called statistically safe.

SWS also said that the 1995 SWS preelection survey correctly identified Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the leading senatorial candidate among the top seven senatorial candidates.

The remaining five slots, which according to SWS statistical analysis could go to any of eight candidates, went to four of the eight it had identified.

SWS also took note of the narrow victory of President Fidel Ramos in 1992, the easy victory of President Joseph Estrada in 1998 and the vice presidential wins of Estrada in 1992 and Ms Arroyo in 1998.

Virola study

Virola evaluated SWS and Pulse Asia on the basis of the polling groups' last surveys prior to elections, which were conducted on May 1-4 and April 26-29, 2004, respectively.

He said he took the view that winning was far more important than the actual percentage of votes garnered.

Thus, his system awarded 50 points for each winning candidate predicted, based on the forecast percentage of votes but not on the statistical ties in the rankings.

In addition, for each of the winning candidate, he awarded 20 points if the difference between the predicted and the actual percentage of votes was at most 1 percentage point; 18 points if it was between 1 and 2 percentage points; 16 points if it was between 2 and 3 percentage points, and so on, with 2 points awarded if the difference was between 9 and 10 percentage points and 0 if beyond 10 percentage points.

To get the overall rating, Virola divided the total points earned by the maximum possible score of 980 points.

Certificates of canvass

As basis for the actual number of votes, he used the "Comelec Senatorial Canvass Report No. 20 with 176/176 COCs Canvassed," and the "Congress Joint Canvass Committee Tabulation with 180/180 COCs Canvassed." A COC refers to the certificate of canvass, a summary of the votes for all national candidates cast in every province, or city, or absentee voting center.

To derive the actual percentage of votes received, Virola used 35,438,327 as the denominator, based on the NSCB estimate of 81.4 percent turnout rate from 43,536,028 registered voters.

Main findings

"Both SWS and Pulse Asia surveys fared very well at the national level in predicting the winners: SWS was perfect, Pulse Asia had only one mistake. Pulse Asia had Maceda instead of Cayetano. But Pulse Asia did much better than SWS in predicting the percentage of votes received.

"In the presidential race, both surveys predicted a win for GMA [Ms Arroyo] and were within one percentage point of the actual percentage of votes received by GMA," Virola said.

Underestimated votes for FPJ

SWS and Pulse Asia underestimated the percentage of votes for Fernando Poe Jr. (FPJ), Ms Arroyo's main rival, by 3.2 and 2.2 percentage points, respectively.

For the other three presidential candidates [Panfilo Lacson, Raul Roco and Eddie Villanueva], both surveys were off by less than 2 percentage points.

"In the vice presidential race, the percentage estimates of SWS for De Castro were within one percentage point of the Comelec count; Pulse Asia missed by more than 3 percentage points," Virola said.

Legarda

As with FPJ, both polling outfits underestimated the share of his running mate, Loren Legarda—SWS by one percentage point, and Pulse Asia by three percentage points.

"In the senatorial race, both succeeded in predicting the first three positions; both predicted that Biazon would barely come in; and predicted that among those who had some but no great chances of winning, both Osmeña and Mercado, would probably not come in," Virola said.

Both SWS and the Pulse Asia underranked [Pia] Cayetano; and SWS underranked [Alfredo] Lim, partly explainable by the fact that the Comelec count showed a very close race for the 8th to 13th places.

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Ailing GMA skips final TU rallies in Cebu, Iloilo

From page A1

where she inaugurated the Jagna port, rode in an open jeep at noon for the inaugural drive on the Bohol circumferential road, and joined officials at the Jagna gymnasium for a program before proceeding to Cebu after lunch.

Ms Arroyo was able to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Convergys Asiatown Center in Lahug, Cebu, at 1:30 p.m. before being taken to Malacañang sa Sugbu (in the South), where Palace doctors attended to her, Kashiwahara said.

She was to have attended the TU miting de avance at Fuente Osmeña in Cebu at 7 p.m. Wednesday, but was advised by her doctors to stay indoors and rest.

The President had been scheduled to rush back to Manila before the TU rally to meet Sarah Dematera, the Filipino domestic helper saved from execution in Saudi Arabia, upon the latter's return at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport at 4:45 p.m. This, too, was cancelled.

"She was not feeling well yesterday (Wednesday) after those activities in Bohol. It was so hot, I think she was dehydrated. She had a slight fever," Kashiwahara told the INQUIRER, adding that the President also had diarrhea and had to be fitted with an intravenous drip.

But Ms Arroyo received reports about the "very successful" TU rally from her officials, Kashiwahara said.

Biggest crowd yet

On Wednesday night at the Fuente Osmeña Circle, which is about 10 minutes away from Malacañang sa Sugbu, Cebu Mayor Tomas Osmeña had to break the news to the biggest crowd yet gathered for the administration coalition.

"[The President] will not be with us. On behalf of the people of Cebu, we want to wish her well. And we know [she is] here with us in spirit," the mayor told the assembly estimated to number 7,000.

It was only at about 11 p.m. that Osmeña told reporters that Ms Arroyo was "down with stomach problems—I guess stomach flu."

The miting de avance started at 9 p.m., when the TU candidates showed up after a torch parade organized by Osmeña supporters.

The President was to have made a pitch for the administration's senatorial and local aspirants.

The political rally quickly turned into a song-and-dance affair with the senatorial candidates alternately introduced by show biz personalities Vic Sotto, Sarah Geronimo, Ai-ai de las Alas, Paolo Ravales, Alessandra de Rossi, JR and siblings John and Camille Pratts.

Except for Sultan Jamalul Kiram, who was represented by his wife, Edgardo Angara, Joker Arroyo, Ralph Recto, Prospero Pichay, Vicente Sotto III, Juan Miguel Zubiri, Michael Defensor Cesar Montano, Vic Magsaysay, Tessie Aquino-Oreta and Luis Singson took turns giving brief speeches.

Also present were local officials, including reelectionist Representatives Tony Cuenco and Raul del Mar.

Seal taken down

The presidential seal was taken down from the podium set up on the left side of the giant stage at past 10 p.m. Later, the podium itself disappeared.

By then, only two TU senatorial candidates had yet to address the crowd.

When the INQUIRER asked about Ms Arroyo's whereabouts, a Malacañang staff member said she was "on the way."

A little later, the staff member sent a text message saying Ms Arroyo was no longer coming.

The information caused a stir, with reporters phoning the senatorial candidates seated on stage for confirmation.

Osmeña and members of the Presidential Security Group denied that a security threat had come up.

"She was trying to come here. That's why I did not announce it early," the mayor said.

Del Mar, the deputy speaker for the Visayas, said the President had confided to him while they were inaugurating the newest Convergys center in Lahug earlier in the day that she was "developing a flu."

"She might have to stay overnight if the condition will not improve because she doesn't want to go home with a fever. It might contaminate the First Gentleman," Del Mar said.

In separate interviews, Angara, Sotto and Zubiri said they were not sure why the President did not turn up. But Pichay confirmed that she had a stomach problem.

Overnight in Cebu

Ms Arroyo spent Wednesday night at Malacañang sa Sugbu and flew back to Manila yesterday morning.

The plaster from the IV drip was still on her hand when she appeared in Malacañang yesterday. She had only one event scheduled—the visit by Dematera and family.

She cancelled her attendance at the TU miting de avance in Iloilo last night.

"The President is just resting today," Kashiwahara said. "It was a simple case of dehydration. It was no big deal [that required going to] the hospital, but it's enough to have her rest for the day."

Ms Arroyo was hospitalized for acute diarrhea in June 2006 after attending a birthday dinner for her husband, Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, in a Quezon City restaurant.

The next month, she was admitted to the St. Luke's Medical Center for treatment of flu.

On April 9, Mike Arroyo underwent a high-risk emergency open heart surgery and triple bypass after being diagnosed with dissecting aortic aneurysm.

He was discharged on May 1 and is recovering, with doctors advising him to avoid all stressful activities that could trigger hypertension and another aneurysm.

Al-Al is not running for office but at the TU's "miting de avance" in Cebu City, the comedienne is clearly the crowd's favorite. LYN RILLON

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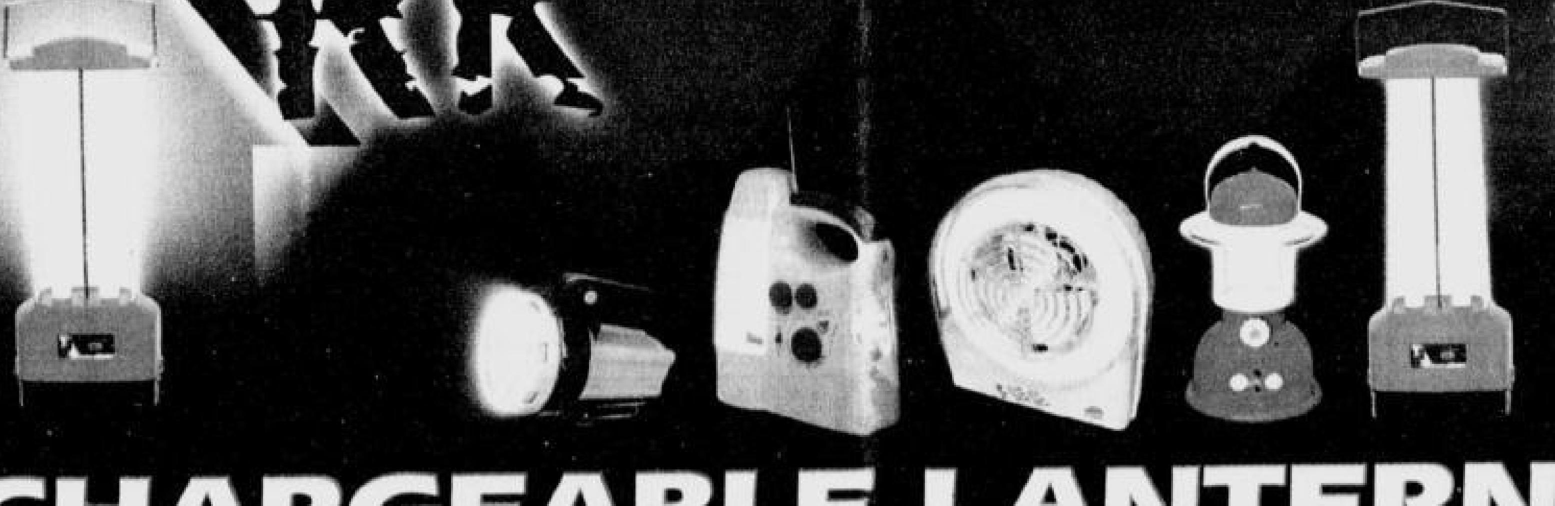

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17 party-list groups poised to win

From page A1

Harmony Toward Educational Reforms Inc. (A Teacher, 3.6 percent) and Ahon Pinoy (Ahon, 3.5 percent); Citizen's Battle Against Corruption (Cibac, 3.4 percent), Aangat Tayo (AT, 3 percent), Agricultural Sectoral Alliance of the Philippines Inc. (Agap, 2.7 percent), Anakpawis (2.7 percent) and Ahonbayan (2.6 percent);

Cooperative-Natcco Network Party (Coop-Natcco, 2.3 percent), Abakada Guro (Abakada, 2.2 percent), Kabataan (2.1 percent), Anak Mindanao (Amin, 2.1 percent), and Kapatiran ng mga Nakulong na Walang Sala Inc. (Kakusa, 2 percent).

Butil and Buhay were each poised to get two seats, while the rest of the groups would each get one seat, according to SWS.

However, if the Veterans Formula were applied, all the groups would get only one seat each, except for Bayan Muna, which would still get three seats.

Poised to retain their current seats in the House were Buhay (2), and Gabriela, Cibac, Coop-Natcco and Amin (1 each).

Anakpawis is poised to retain only one of the two seats it currently holds.

Nominees

- The nominees of Bayan Muna are Satur Ocampo, Teodoro Casiño and Neri Colmenares.
- Akbayan—Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel, Walden Bello and Enrico Dayanghirang.
- Butil—Leonila Chavez, Agapito Guanlao and Herminio Ocampo.
- Buhay—(1st set) Hans Christian Señeres, Hermenegildo Dumlao and Antonio Bautista; (2nd set) Rene Velarde, Ma. Carissa Coscolluela and Wiliam Irwin Tieng.
- Gabriela—Liza Maza, Luzviminda Ilagan and Flora Belinan.
- A Teacher—Mariano Piamonte, Ulpiano Sarmiento III and Carolina Porio.
- Ahon—Dante Francis M. Ang II, Bernardo F. Ople and Ernesto Herrera III.
- Cibac—Emmanuel Joel Villanueva, Luis Lokan Jr. and Cinchona Gonzales.
- Aangat Tayo—Daryl Grace Abayon, Eden Debulgado Rivera and Meriam Lasta Paylaga.
- Agap—Nicanor Briones, Cesar Cobrador and Rosalinda Dacanay.
- Anakpawis—Crispin Beltran, Rafael Mariano and Joel Maglunsod.
- Ahonbayan—Edgar Cataron-gan, Edgardo Manda and Raden Sakaluran.
- Coop-Natcco—Guillermo Cua, Jose Ping-ay and Cresente Paez.
- Abakada—Jonathan de la Cruz, Samson Alcantara and Cecilia Dy.
- Kabataan—Raymond Palatino, Enrico Almonguerra and Mary Francis Veloso.
- Amin—Mujiv Hataman, Ariel Hernandez and Arnel Arbison.
- Kakusa—Ranulfo Canonigo, Omar Rivera and Ma. Jesusa Sespeñe.

Only 53 percent of voters

The last installment in the three-part series of SWS surveys with the INQUIRER as its exclusive media partner also found that 53 percent of some 45 million registered voters chose a party-list group from the official Commission on Elections list. This was equivalent to 23.9 million votes.

The survey used face-to-face interviews with 1,200 registered voters divided into random samples of 300 each in Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao.

Just below threshold

Groups "just below the threshold but within statistical reach" include Abanse! Pinay (1.9 percent), Cocofed-Philippine Coconut Producers Federation Inc. (Cocofed, 1.8 percent), Abono (1.7 percent), Advocates for Special Children and the Handicapped Movement (Asahan Mo, 1.5 percent), Alagad (1.5 percent), Veterans Freedom Party (VFP, 1.5 percent), 1-United Transport Koalisyon (1-Utak, 1.5 percent) and Suara Bangsamoro (Suara, 1.5 percent).

Alyansang Bayanihan ng Magsasaka, Manggagawang Bukid at Mangingisda-Adhikain at Kilusan ng Ordinaryong Tao (Aba-Ako, 1.4 percent), Alyansa ng Mamamayang Naghihirap (1.3 percent) and Association of Philippine Electric Cooperative (Apec, 1.3 percent).

Angat Ating Kabuhayan Pilipinas Inc. (Anak, 1.2 percent), Akbay Pinoy OFW-National Inc. (Apoi, 1.1 percent), Bagong Alyansang Tagapagtaguyod ng Adhikaing Sambayanan (Batas, 1 percent) and Assalam Bangsamoro People's Party (Assalam, 1 percent).

"Allowing for sampling error, with a survey outcome of 3 percent or more, it is statistically safe to say that a party has truly reached the threshold of 2 percent. On the other hand, a survey outcome of below 1 percent makes it statistically very unlikely that the threshold has in truth been reached," SWS said in a statement released yesterday.

Incumbent party-list groups that scored below the statistical threshold include An Waray (0.6 percent), Alliance of Volunteer Educators (Ave, 0.1 percent), Ang Laban ng Indiginong Filipino (Alif, 0 percent) and Partido ng Manggagawa (PM, 0 percent).

An Waray is currently represented by Florencio Noel; Ave by Eulogio Magsaysay; Alif by Acmad Tomawis, and PM by Renato Magtubo.

Results by area

Akbayan, Gabriela and Ahon met the 2-percent threshold across all areas—Metro Manila, Luzon outside Metro Manila, the Visayas and Mindanao.

Bayan Muna and Kabataan satisfied the 2-percent rule in all areas, except in Mindanao, where Bayan Muna only got 1.7 percent and Kabataan received none (0 percent).

A Teacher and AT missed the threshold only in Metro Manila (1.2 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively), while Cibac missed it in the Visayas (0 percent).

Butil (11 percent) and Ahonbayan (5 percent) drew their support mostly from respondents in the balance of Luzon; Buhay from Metro Manila (11 percent) and the balance of Luzon (5.6 percent), and Amin and Kakusa, from Mindanao (10.3 percent and 7.8 percent, respectively).

Coop-Natcco received most of its votes from the Visayas (4.2 percent) and Mindanao (3.3 percent), while Abakada from Metro Manila (3.7 percent) and Mindanao (5.5 percent).

Results by class

By socioeconomic class, the top five groups—Bayan Muna, Akbayan, Butil, Buhay and Gabriela—along with Ahon, Anakpawis and Abakada, satisfied the 2-percent threshold across all classes ABC, D and E.

A Teacher (1.6 percent), AT (0 percent), Ahonbayan (0 percent), Kabataan (1.6 percent) and Amin (0 percent) missed the threshold among members of class ABC, while Cibac (1.8 percent), Agap (1.2 percent) and Coop-Natcco (1.8 percent) missed it in class E.

Kakusa drew much of its support from class E (5.7 percent).

Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research

PARTY PREFERENCES FOR PARTY-LIST,

PHILIPPINES, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY 2007
(Base: Registered voters who voted for a party in the official party-list)

	MAY 2-4 2007 (93 groups)	APR 14-17 2007 (93 groups)	MAR 15-18 2007 (88 groups)	FEB 24-27 2007 (81 groups)
(Number of Registered Voters (in 000))	45,030	45,056	45,056	45,056
(% who voted for a PL group)	53.00%	46.30%	57.60%	62.40%
(Est. count of votes for PL(in 000))	23864	20852	25928	28115
Name of party				
BAYAN MUNA	8.4	10.4	27.6	18.7
AKBAYAN	8.2	9.8	3.9	4.2
BUTIL	4.9	0.7	0.7	1.5
BUHAY	4.2	4.1	1.6	0.4
GABRIELA	3.9	2.7	5.8	8.4
A TEACHER	3.6	5	2.2	1.6
AHON	3.5	5.8	0.5	1.3
CIBAC	3.4	1.4	2.3	0.5
AT	3.4	5.6	2.2	4.4
AGAP	2.7	3.3	0.3	0.7
ANAKPAWIS	2.7	3.2	6.2	10.5
AHONBAYAN	2.6	1.2	0.4	0.7
COOP-NATCCO	2.3	1.3	1.5	1.2
ABAKADA	2.2	2.9		
KABATAAN	2.1	1.2	1.5	1.2
AMIN	2.1	1	3	2.2
KAKUSA	2	0.6	0.2	0
ABANSE! PINAY	1.9	1.8	0.5	0.5
COCOFED	1.8	1.2	0.5	0.5
ABONO	1.7	1.4	1.6	0.3
ASAHAN MO	1.5	0.9	0.4	0
ALAGAD	1.5	2	0.7	0.3
VFP	1.5	1.3	0.4	1.2
1-UTAK	1.5	1.6	0.5	0.7
SUARA	1.5	0.3	2	1.3
ABA-AKO	1.4	0.2	1.2	2.3
ALMANA	1.3	3.6		
APEC	1.3	1.2	1.8	0.8
ANAK	1.2	0.2	2.3	1.7
APOI	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.3
BATAS	1	0.3	0.3	
ASSALAM	1	0.9	1.1	0.5
KALAHI	0.9	0	0.5	0.2
ABC	0.9	0.8	0.3	
PMAP	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.4
AKSA	0.7	1.9	0.1	0.6
FPJPM	0.7	0	1.2	0.7
ABA ILONGGO	0.7	1.2	1	1.2
ANAD	0.7	1.3	1	0.7
BIYAYANG BUKID	0.7	0.2	0.3	
ADD-TRIBAL	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.2
AKAPIN	0.6	0.7	0	0.8
AN WARAY	0.6	0.3	1.8	5.5
AGBIAGI	0.6	0.9	0	0.3
SPI	0.6	0	0.4	0.3
VENDORS	0.5	0.4		
DIWA	0.5	0.5	0	0
BANDILA	0.5	0.8		
AANGAT KA PILIPINO	0.5	1.2	5	6.2
SENIOR CITIZENS	0.5	0.4		
TUCP	0.5	0.1		
BANAT	0.4	0.6		
BTM	0.4	0	0.1	0.1
PM	0.3	0.6	1.8	1.3
AGHAM	0.3	0.2	0.3	
ARC	0.3	0		
AMANG	0.3	0	0	0.6
SANLAKAS	0.3	0.6	1.5	0.6
AGING PINOY	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4
BABAE KA	0.3	0.8	1.1	1.6
AA-KASOSYO	0.3	0.3	0	0
UNI-MAD	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4
ANG KASANGGA	0.2	0	0.3	0.6
A SMILE	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7
AVE	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3
AG	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.5
PBA	0.1	1.4	0.4	
ANC	0.1	0	0	0
YACAP	0.1	0.3	0.5	
BANTAY	0.1	0	0.6	0.1
BIGKIS	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1
APO	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2
BP	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.1
UMDJ	0.1	0		
AAPS	0	0	0.3	0.1
AAWAS	0	0	0	0.4
ABAY PARAK	0	0	0.3	0
ABS	0	0	0.1	0.2
ADD	0	0.2		
ALIF	0	2.6	0.7	0.4
ASAP	0	0.1	0.3	0
ATS	0	0	0	0
BAGO	0	0	0.1	0
BAHANDI	0	0	0.1	0
BUKLOD FILIPINA	0	0	0.2	0.1
GRECON	0	0	0	0
HAPI	0	0	0.1	
KASAPI	0	0	0.1	0
LYPAD	0	0	0	0
NELFFI	0	0	0	0.3
PEP	0	0	0.1	0
SB	0	0	0.6	0.3
SM	0	0		

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We are appalled by the attitude of some of our political leaders who would use their influence and connection, money and resources of government to attain their goal of winning in this election without regard for a sense of *delicadeza*.

We are concerned about the plight of our fellow Filipinos who are living in sub-human conditions because of poverty brought about by lack of opportunities for employment and other sources of livelihood.

We believe that progress and development can only happen if we elect the right leaders who have the vision, personal integrity, competence and the charisma to inspire unity and cooperation among the citizenry.

We resolve that social transformation can begin with ourselves as we continue to commit ourselves to make a difference in our homes, work places and communities.

We aim to bring about a better tomorrow for our country by exercising vigilance in making our public servants accountable in their performance of duties.

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1. **HONESTY AND PERSONAL INTEGRITY** - The leader speaks the truth. S/he ensures transparency in government. S/he does not engage in nor tolerate graft and corruption in his/her scope of influence.
2. **HARD WORKING AND SERVICE-ORIENTED** - S/he is competent, willing to serve, and can identify with the *common tao*. S/he puts others and the community above himself/herself in public service and works hard for the common good.
3. **NON-VIOLENT AND PEACE LOVING** - S/he resolves problems and conflicts through dialogue and peaceful means. S/he trusts his/her people and his/her clear conscience to protect him/her from harm in the exercise of his/her duties. S/he does not have goons or a private army to protect his/her interest.
4. **INSPIRES UNITY AND COOPERATION** - S/he listens to his/her people and leads through participatory management. S/he draws cooperation without discriminating others even his/her own political adversaries. S/he works with his/her people with a vision for the common good.
5. **PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT** - S/he has concrete programs on solid waste management, reforestation, clean air and water, etc. to protect and promote the integrity of creation. S/he does not exploit and destroy the natural resources.
6. **CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE DISADVANTAGED** - S/he gives priority to quality education and equal protection of the poor, marginalized and deprived members of society, especially the children, women and elderly.
7. **RESPECTS THE RULE OF LAW** - S/he is a law abiding citizen, upholds the Constitution and the rule of law. S/he applies the laws with justice, without fear and favour, to protect and respect human dignity.
8. **PROMOTES NATIONAL INTERESTS** – S/he is an advocate of Filipino Excellence. S/he defends fair trade in an environment of liberalization and globalization. S/he promotes the arts and culture, supports sports, preserves our historical and national patrimony.
9. **GOD FEARING AND FAMILY ORIENTED** - S/he does not violate the original 10 Commandments. S/he is always faithful and loving to his family. S/he believes in God by practicing his religion and respects other beliefs that promote the welfare and good of everyone.

CANDIDATE'S PERFORMANCE RATING
Name: ____________________
Position: ____________________
Town/City/Province: ____________________

CRITERIA	RATING 5 4 3 2 1	REMARKS
1. HONESTY & PERSONAL INTEGRITY	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
2. HARD WORKING & SERVICE-ORIENTED	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
3. NON-VIOLENT & PEACE LOVING	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
4. INSPIRES UNITY AND COOPERATION	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
5. PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
6. CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE DIS-ADVANTAGED	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
7. RESPECTS THE RULE OF LAW	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
8. PROMOTES NATIONAL INTERESTS	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
9. GOD FEARING AND FAMILY ORIENTED	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
AVERAGE:		

Rating: 5 - Excellent 3 - Satisfactory 1 - Poor
4 - Very Good 2 - Fair

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ADVT

Court denies bail petition of Trillanes

By DJ Yap and Kimberly Tan

UNLIKE FORMER SEN. GREGORIO "GRINGO" Honasan, Navy Lt. Antonio Trillanes IV will not be getting out of detention anytime soon, after a Makati court denied him bail yesterday.

Judge Oscar Pimentel of the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 148 junked the bail application of Trillanes, a suspected leader of the failed Oakwood mutiny of 2003, for lack of merit.

In a nine-page resolution, Pimentel gave no weight to Trillanes' argument that, as a mere participant to the failed coup, he should be entitled bail as a matter of right.

He also dismissed Trillanes' statement that he was no longer subject to military control since filing his certificate of candidacy.

The court noted that its earlier ruling denying Trillanes bail, which was affirmed by the Court of Appeals, had "already attained finality."

"A belated grant of bail to accused Trillanes will certainly set a bad precedent for criminal law procedure jurisprudence," Pimentel said.

He said this will "send the wrong signal to the public" that being a senatorial candidate charged with a non-bailable capital offense may have "instant special privilege and treatment."

But Pimentel granted another motion by Trillanes to be allowed to vote in Caloocan City on May 14.

The court gave him leave to cast his ballot from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, under the watch of military escorts.

The order stipulated there should be no deviation to his itinerary—from his departure to the Philippine Marine Brig at Fort Bonifacio to his arrival at Precinct No. 0687B in Caloocan, where he is to vote—and back.

Trillanes was also prohibited from talking about the details of his case to the media and was asked to avoid any form of campaigning and issuing of inflammatory statements."

Focap protests camp rule

THE FOREIGN CORrespondents Association of the Philippines (Focap) has protested the military's stopping two of its members from entering Fort Bonifacio to interview detained coup plotter Antonio Trillanes IV who is running for senator under the opposition ticket.

In a letter to Armed Forces Chief Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr., Focap president Manny Mogato asked Esperon for a clarification on the military's policy with regard to foreign visitors seeking to enter military camps.

According to Mogato, Sebastien Farcis of Radio French International and Douglas Bakshian of the Voice of America were not allowed to enter the custodial center where the interview with Trillanes was to take place.

Mogato said the two journalists were asked to present a clearance from the AFP Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence (J2) as this was supposedly required of all foreigners visiting military camps in the country.

"The two reporters did not argue and left because it was impossible to get a J2 clearance in less than an hour or within the day," said Mogato, who is a reporter of Reuters.

He said the officers of the Manila Barracks of the Philippine Marines ignored the identification card issued to the journalists by the International Press Center of the Office of the Press Secretary.

He said the requirement of a J2 clearance was "absurd." *Christine O. Avendaño*

ICA Vira reunion

THE IMMACULATE Conception Academy and Immaculate Conception Seminary Academy alumni will hold a homecoming on May 18-20 in Virac, Catanduanes, their third biennial homecoming since 2003. Homecoming 2007 president Bong Rodulfo has lined up activities, including a costume parade, picnic at Twin Rock Beach Resort, and awarding of the 10 outstanding achievers by batch. Preregistration will be on May 17. Rodulfo can be reached at 0921-5049942.

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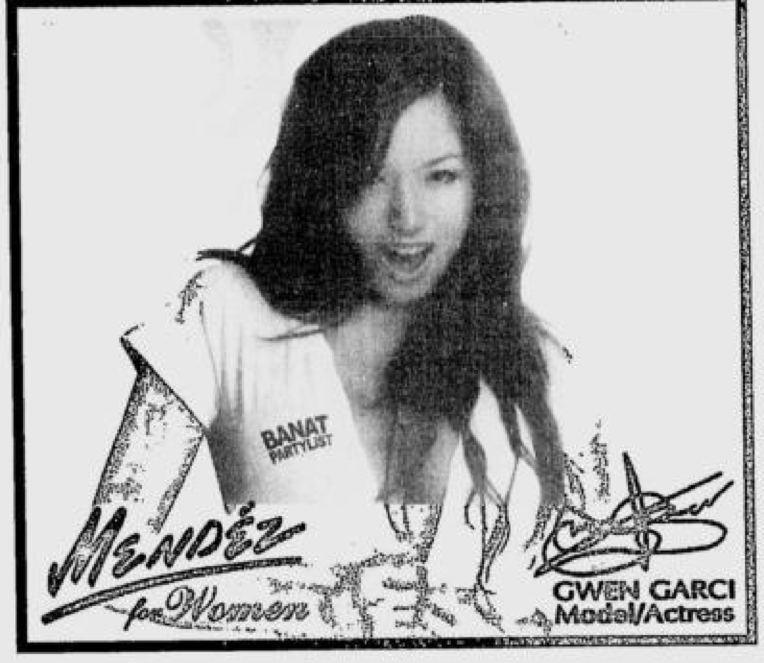

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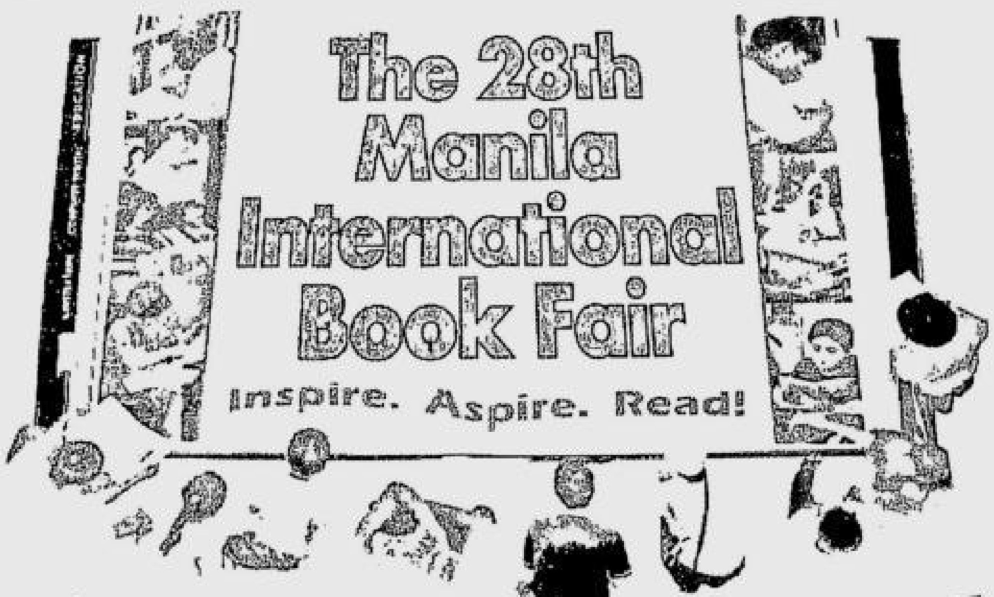

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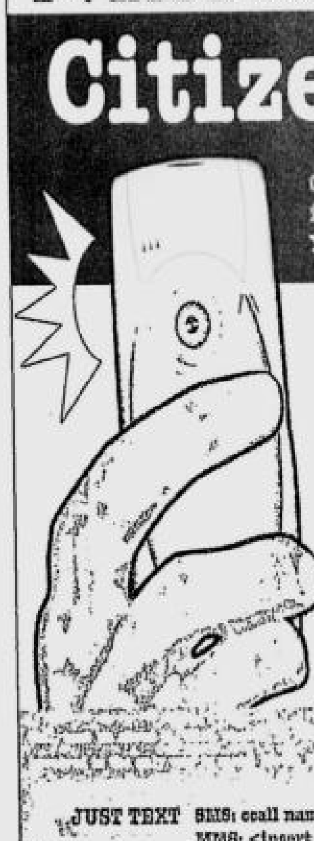

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INQUIRER

FOUR LETTER WORD, Edsa (above right) is now a buzzword among Kapampangans. (Above) Fr. Panlilio shares a light. (Left) It's getting to look a lot like history may be in the making here.

PHOTOS BY TONETTE OREJAS/INQUIRER CENTRAL LUZON

Panlilio campaign awesome, says GMA sister

From page A1

his campaign for governor of Pampanga, in a crowded field of six that includes powerful politicians.

"We're matching these with the only weapons we have—prayers, courage and unity. We have no guns, goons and gold. But we have the most powerful force guiding us in this crusade, God," said the 53-year-old Panlilio, a diocesan priest on leave from his parish.

Saying money, lies and threats were taking away the only power left of the Kapampangan to choose their leaders, Panlilio has called on his supporters to work for a win in Monday's elections and in his crusade for good governance.

"It's only through a landslide victory that we can really beat the cheating and other dirty tricks," Panlilio told the INQUIRER yesterday.

"We need to use the power of votes for good to triumph over evil," he said.

A survey done by a government agency showed him last week to be "trailing closely" Board Member Lilia Pineda, wife of suspected "jueteng" lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda, while reelectionist Gov. Mark Lapid was third.

Panlilio's supporters have started doubling their efforts to ensure his victory, hoping to overtake Pineda.

Prayer brigade

Former Pampanga Vice Gov. Cielo Macapagal-Salgado, the half-sister of President Macapagal-Arroyo, leads a prayer brigade for Panlilio.

"The Panlilio campaign is awesome. He's ignited our love and fervor for our province," Salgado said.

"We keep harping about how corrupt our politicians are and yet we don't do anything about it. What Father Ed has shown us is we can do something about it. From all walks of life, we have been galvanized to make this change happen against all odds," said artist Claude Tayag.

Historian Robby Tantingco said: "Whether he wins or loses, he has already restored the people's interest and faith in the electoral process."

Tested leadership

Aeta leader Benny Capuno has been doing the rounds of mountain villages to reach his tribal people and convince them to vote for Panlilio, the missionary that led them out of the Mt. Pinatubo disaster in June 1991.

"He was with us in difficult times, crossing rivers, climbing mountains to reach us and pluck us out of danger. We've tested his leadership. *Mikabyus tamu king kasakitan nung kayabe taya* (We can beat poverty if we are with him)," said Capuno.

Fatima Twinkle Lopez, 17, has wasted no time either. She approaches young voters, telling them about the good work that Panlilio did for the youth in his parish in Betis, Guagua.

"You know, he's like a 'pusher.' He constantly encourages us to join catechism classes, arts workshops and sports competitions. He does not stop pushing us to do our best," Lopez said.

Countering propaganda

Like other volunteers, Lopez wears a pin declaring she's a "child" of Panlilio, a funny way of countering the supposed black propaganda spread by his rivals.

The entire Lopez family is on a campaign trail. Her mother and father wear pins proclaiming they are the "girlfriend" and "boyfriend" of Panlilio, as they distribute leaflets on his platform of government.

Gus Supan, a pastor of the Methodist Church, refuses to be cowed by the series of intimidation in Lubao, the bailiwick of Pineda.

"Instead of closing Among Ed's headquarters, we bought four tires and converted a jeep as our mobile headquarters. We learned the trick from jueteng area managers who do the draw in moving vehicles," Supan said.

Supan campaigns even among jueteng bettors, telling them that with Panlilio, "they're sure to win."

'Don't be cruel'

Cancer survivor Joseph Tuazon, 72, has been wearing his Elvis Presley costume for the nightly campaign concerts in various towns.

To the tune of Presley's "Don't be cruel," Tuazon tells voters to "follow your conscience and do not take the money offered by politicians."

World jazz champs

The performing troupe ArtiSta. Rita and world jazz champion Mon David sing during concerts on the guidance of international choreographer and director Andy Alviz, the campaign's creative director.

On Thursday, Panlilio's campaign finance committee continued to have its hands full accepting donations from overseas Kapampangan, Metro Manila-based business leaders and national candidates.

Erap gloats over Chavit's No. 25 rank in SWS survey

From page A1

Actors did better

"Actors Richard Gomez and Cesar Montano did better," Estrada, the lead backer of the GO senatorial ticket, said on Thursday from his resort in Tanay, Rizal, where he is detained in connection with a 6-year-old plunder case.

Estrada let out a laugh when asked what could be the reason for Singson's low rating despite his huge expenses for media ads.

It was Singson, then the Ilocos Sur governor, who accused Estrada of accepting payoffs from gambling lords and pocketing tobacco excise taxes during his presidency, charges that led to his ouster from Malacañang in January 2001 and landed him in jail.

Apart from Singson's present misfortune, Estrada also voiced satisfaction that GO candidates were faring well-in-surveys "despite our lack of campaign funds and despite the billions of pesos they (TU candidates) have spent."

"This is our consolation ... We just hope we won't get cheated," he said.

Command votes for TU?

Despite the poor showing of TU senatorial candidates, Malacañang still believes that most of them will still break into the winning circle—thanks to command votes and a formidable political machinery.

"We believe that surveys can't track machinery and command votes. The question asked in the surveys is your own preference. Between that preference and the actual voting, or the actual delivery of the votes, there's a wide gap. That is where command votes and machinery come in," said Cerge Remonde, chief of the Presidential Management Staff. *With a report from Michael Lim Ubac*

ALIF

ALIF PARTY LIST

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Vision : *A cohesive and progressive Philippines where all Filipinos live in harmony, peace, unity, equality and understanding, irrespective of their beliefs, stations in life and other conditions that spawn or generate discrimination.*

Why ALIF Party-List deserves re-election...

To ensure continuity in the pursuit of its advocacies and to sustain implementaton of its projects, as identified below:

Primary Advocacies

** Quality Education*
** Accessible Health Care/Facilities*
** Poverty Alleviation*
** Peace & Order*
** Economic Growth*
** Infrastructure Development*
** Promotion of Indigenous Skills and Native Handicrafts*
** Social Stability through Respect for Human Rights*
** Environmental Preservation and Ecological Balance*
** Effective Utilization of Resources to Enhance Self-reliance*
** More Opportunities for Muslims and Indigenous Filipinos*

Projects Initiated/Activities Undertaken

** Farm-to-Market Road * Road concreting*
** Drainage Maintenance * Water System*
** School buildings * Multi-Purpose Centers*
** Assistance for the Completion of Provincial Capital at Tubod, Lanao del Norte*
** Satellite (DREAM) TV installation in Regions IX & X * Scholarship grants*
** Medical /Relief Operations*
** Seedlings and Fertilizer distribution*
** Rural Electrification * Park Improvement*
** Assistance to Indigenous Festivities*
** Assistance to Muslim Filipino Pilgrims to Makkah, Saudi Arabia * Sports Activities*
** Legal and Technical Assistance to deserving constituents*
** Assistance/Subsidy to various LGUs for efficient and responsive public service*

Summary of Main Accomplishments:

* Authored and co-authored various bills and resolutions, both of local and national importance, to address concerns of its constituents;
* Initiated the implementation and/or funding of various projects, as briefly listed above;
* Articulation of its (ALIF's) advocacies and positions on various national issues and concerns affecting its constituents.

Muling ihalal ang ALIF PARTY LIST
sa Mayo 14, 2007 elections
Paid for by Friends of ALIF Party List

Noynoy gets heady dose of 'Cory magic'

From page A1

Since February, Noynoy had been struggling to break into the Magic 12 in surveys conducted by Social Weather Stations and Pulse Asia Inc.

After Aquino's "*Lagot siya sa nanay niya*" ads and personal forays in the Visayas, the results of the last survey conducted by SWS prior to the May 14 polls showed Noynoy in the sixth slot.

Said Noynoy's campaign manager Florencio Abad: "We intensified our national media ads. Cory Aquino has a high endorsement value equal to the strength of [former President Joseph Estrada] and the widow [of the late presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr.] Susan Roces."

Project Rostov

Abad said the Project Rostov survey conducted by SWS from March 18 to 23 was a major guide in Noynoy's campaign toward the homestretch.

The study commissioned by GO national campaign manager Sen. Sergio Osmeña III, supposedly intended only for the guidance of GO candidates, found that 36 percent of 2,500 respondents nationwide would vote for a candidate endorsed by Aquino.

The endorsements of Estrada and Roces earned the same rating.

"Aside from the ads, we also brought [Noynoy] to places where her [Cory's] endorsement rating was strong. These are in Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas and Northwestern Mindanao," said Abad, a former education secretary and, like Noynoy, a member of the Liberal Party.

According to the survey, 47 percent of the respondents in Central Visayas said they would vote for a candidate endorsed by Aquino. The region includes the vote-rich province of Cebu, reputed to be a bailiwick of the administration.

Abad said the results of the Rostov survey also showed Noynoy's campaign team where he was lagging and where additional exposure was required.

He said Noynoy went to these areas twice or thrice to endear him to the electorate.

"We also identified the strong radio stations" and arranged interviews, Abad said.

2 major endorsers

Abad said Noynoy's campaign team likewise exploited the Rostov survey finding that the soft-spoken Tarlac congressman and son of martial law martyr Benigno Aquino Jr. had not one but two major endorsers in the persons of his mother and sister.

Doubts had been raised about the continuing effectiveness of the "Cory magic" in Philippine politics, with administration leaders and allies gloating when Aquino's call in 2005 on President Macapagal-Arroyo to resign amid allegations of electoral fraud failed to result in a public clamor.

In the 1988 senatorial elections, the first after Edsa I and under the 1987 Constitution, Aquino's endorsement resulted in a 22-2 administration rout of the opposition.

The only opposition candidates who won then were Estrada and Juan Ponce Enrile.

"Rostov helped [us realize] that we now have two endorsers—Cory and Kris," Abad said.

Both mother and daughter had said that their endorsement in this year's polls would exclusively be for Noynoy.

Gratification

With only three days before Election Day and his entry into the upper bracket of the SWS top 12, Noynoy feels gratified.

"Certainly, there is no better way to cap 90 days of a gruelling campaign than welcome news indicating that all your efforts have paid off," Noynoy said.

"We identified the regions where I have a low awareness level and a high vote co and concentrated on the and TV ads as well as ca by me and my mom," he s

Noynoy also acknowledg inputs gained from the Rost

"The positive SWS su product of the effort of team to readjust his cam into a smart, media-inte pirically based strategy,"

Another GO candi "Chiz" Escudero, also cr tov survey for his strong senatorial surveys.

Escudero started on his paign without breaking i but is now in the top thre

"Yes, the Rostov survey

EASY RIDER: Noynoy Aq Dinky Soliman (front row

Manila

By Volt Contreras

THEY ARE NOT EVEN voters in the fourth distr nan where Speaker Jose is running for reelectio they identified with his r City Mayor Benjamin Lim

But a group of mostly individuals has embarke wide signature campaig Pangasinenses "to seek tives" to De Venecia in the

Giving him another ter "choice that will not only

JDV run

From page A1

To Lim, running agains de Venecia Jr., one of the powerful, influential a politicians, is "in itself an

"I feel good fighting h "The thing is, people hav that having a choice in t the best thing that ever our district."

Six years ago, Lim c ished off and consigned I manently to political ob fought him in the congre the fourth district.

De Venecia, still re from his wounds after b in the 1998 presiden came home to this city i ing to take back the con he had vacated but whic occupied by Lim then.

And De Venecia want him on a silver platter: unopposed and Lim sh Dagupan mayor. Bowin Lim eventually gave way.

"I'm now fighting the challenger. I'm fighting this makes this election said.

De Venecia said he, too

For the first time sinc then Vice Gov. Gonzalo of Health Secretary Fra III, ran against him, De V a serious threat to his could mean losing his ch the leadership of the H sentatives.

Although he sounded that he would breeze thr tion, De Venecia said he paigning very hard.

"I've always run scared just a local election," De Ve tory can change in a week,

Susan Roces endorse

But from all indicatio may be facing his greate tle. He had been campaig ously, even going to the ing out the endorsemen personalities in the cou President Macapagal-Arr ident Noli de Castro, fo Fidel Ramos and El Si Mike Velarde.

Two campaign billbo from a school façade Venecia with US Preside Bush.

Several roads and bri constructed now in vario district and the controv insurance cards are being

Too close to call

Lim, on the other han dorsed by actress Susan of presidential aspirant nando Poe Jr.

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-based group calls on Pangasinenses to dump De Venecia

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province, but the entire nation," they said.

The group, whose spokesperson contacted the INQUIRER on Wednesday, conceded that De Venecia might just easily retain the speakership, the fourth highest position in the country.

'No. 1 trapo'

"It just so happened that Lim is his opponent, but we are appealing to our *kababayan* there to reject the nation's No. 1 *trapo* (traditional politician)," Norma Liongoren, an art gallery curator based in Quezon City, said.

A list of signatories faxed by Liongoren contained some prominent names in the media, arts, and civil society, including activist Princess Nemenzo, sculptor Julie Lluch, writer Amadis Ma. Guerrero, and marine scientist and Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) awardee Philip Cruz.

An accompanying statement, which Liongoren said would shortly come out as a newspaper ad, read: "We call upon the voters to reject De Venecia's bid for reelection for obvious and compelling reasons."

Patronage politics

The statement recalled how the veteran lawmaker, whose political career particularly started soaring a decade ago during the Ramos administration, allegedly "chose to stay silent" since charges of massive election fraud, graft and corruption, and human rights violation began hounding the Arroyo administration.

"The brand of patronage politics that JDV and his ilk have cultivated contributed immensely to our current headaches," it added.

RAY ZAMBRANO/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE for Dagupan Mayor Benjamin Lim to be running in Pangasinan's 4th District against one of the country's most powerful men, Speaker Jose de Venecia.

RAY ZAMBRANO/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

IN HIS ELEMENT: De Venecia courts votes for his reelection in a contest that's keenly watched as it will test the vaunted political machinery in key provinces like Pangasinan.

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Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz said the May 14 elections could be De Venecia's "hardest" battle.

"This fight between the Speaker and Mayor Lim is going to be a close one," said Cruz.

He said if the congressional race in the fourth district is being watched by national political observers, it is because of De Venecia.

"It will be a slap on the face of GMA [President Macapagal-Arroyo] if the Speaker loses. The administration will lose face," Cruz said.

As the campaign heated up, both camps accused each other of massive vote-buying and swapped disqualification charges in the Commission on Elections provincial office.

De Venecia, who had flaunted in a news conference a survey that showed him way ahead of Lim, said politicians lagging in surveys could only hope to recover by engaging in "massive, relentless vote-buying."

Money offers

"But look who's talking," Lim said. "The people know that the accusations against us are actually more of their doing because in every corner of the district, money is being offered left and right and grocery items are being distributed randomly and indiscriminately."

Lim said De Venecia's power and sphere of influence were also widely felt in the district when he asked at least two police chiefs to go on leave for no reason.

Lim also cited the transfer of a Comelec officer on De Venecia's behest.

"You see? He has everything working for him. My only edge here is my credibility. I walk the talk," Lim said.

Despite this heated exchange, Cruz said he was sure both camps would not resort to violence.

"I know them well enough," he said.

By the way De Venecia enumerated the local groups and personalities supporting his candidacy, nothing would be left for Lim.

Ground situation

"Well, let him continue to hope that he would win. The situation on the ground is that people are so quiet," Lim said.

He said that if the people were asked who they were going to vote for, "they might not even tell the truth."

"But a good indication that people want change in the district comes in the form of their presence in our rallies," he said.

With only a few days left before voters go to the polling places, Lim still hoped he would become a David slaying a Goliath.

"The results of this election will be a close one. But if people will continue to have that interest and clamor for change, then this is it—it's the end of JDV," Lim said.

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uino rides a trolley along the rails in Los Baños, Laguna.
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NINA CATHERINE CALLEJA/INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

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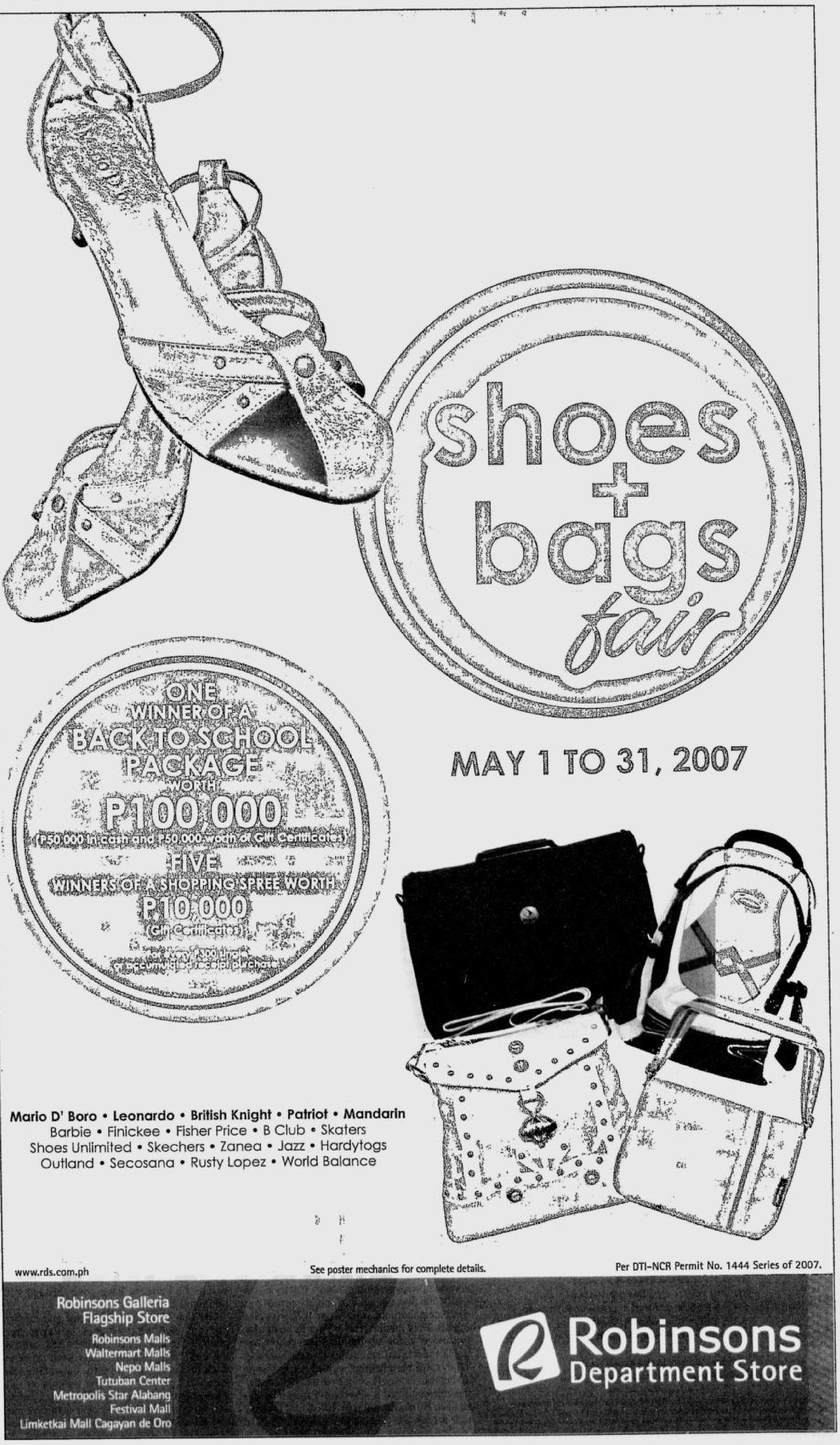
helped us to know which areas we needed to concentrate on," he said. "We just worked hard to use every medium available to reach as many people within 90 days, to make known our message and platform."

Loren awed

Loren Legarda, also of GO, tightened her hold on the No. 1 spot in the last SWS survey, garnering 59 percent of the preference votes of 1,200 respondents nationwide.

"I am both awed and inspired by the trust and confidence given me by our countrymen," Legarda said. "What I'm asking our fellow Filipinos now is to pray to the Almighty and for all of us to be united in ensuring that the elections will be clean, honest and credible."



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INQUIRER

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OPINION

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Fantastic

EDITORIAL

FANTASTIC IS THE THEORY OF ARMED FORCES Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. who says the communists can be linked to the kidnappers of Jonas Burgos. Faced with leads that point to the kidnappers' vehicle sporting license plates from another vehicle impounded last year by the military, Esperon says the plates must have been stolen.

His theory goes like this: Since the police have traced license plate TAB 194 to a vehicle impounded in June 2006 in Bulacan (by an anti-illegal logging task force of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Army's 56th Infantry Battalion), and the vehicle, according to eyewitnesses, that was used in the kidnapping wasn't the impounded AUV, then it's obvious another vehicle was used. Esperon's theory is that the impounded vehicle remained parked in its space even after the 56th IB left and a smaller unit took over. Along the way, the vehicle was stripped of its license plates and its engine.

But, Esperon apparently told Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, the impounded vehicle is where it always was. Ermita helpfully filled in the blanks: "You can imagine some troublemakers really took advantage, when everyone was not looking around, to steal the plates and then use it for criminality." And the Ermita-Esperon tandem then helpfully filled in other blanks. They quoted an Army colonel as saying that settlers displaced from a railway project in the capital (and allied with the communists!) stole the plates. So now, according to the military brass (both retired and active), the communists did it.

Burgos' family thinks otherwise, and that may be the problem. Jose Luis Burgos the other day said, "All indications point to the 56th IB as the culprit." The Burgoses have appealed to Brig. Gen. Delfin Bangit, chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, to look into the matter. The 56th IB is under Col. Noel Clement, who was an intelligence officer under Bangit once upon a time. Except now, before Bangit can even do any real investigating, here come his superiors—Esperon and Ermita—with their own perfect solution, courtesy of, who else, but Clement.

So Clement gives the Bart Simpson defense: "I didn't do it. Nobody saw me do it. You can't prove anything!" This, combined with the Palace line ("If anybody did it, it had to be the communists, they do everything!") leaves Bangit with no wiggle room to contradict his bosses.

This official theory of the Burgos abduction raises even more questions. What kind of impounding of property does the government undertake, when impounded vehicles are basically abandoned, and where vehicles end up losing their plates and engines? What kind of security procedures do military units have when they march out of their encampments and leave things ready for the picking? Why should anyone trust the capabilities of a military that can't even secure property, and which is vulnerable to what it claims are raids by informal settlers?

The Burgos family believes that a military unit, in possession of an impounded vehicle, was in a good position to provide cover for an abduction. But the military would rather make the public believe that a group of displaced settlers raided a military camp, one that had been conveniently left unguarded even though it contained impounded private property, to steal license plates, so that an activist could be kidnapped in plain view, in Quezon City, so that the communists can embarrass the military. Fantastic.

Strange exchange

FOREIGN COMMENT

IN HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES SINCE TAKING office, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with President George W. Bush. Abe offered an apology to the president about the Japanese military's treatment of wartime "comfort women," and Bush accepted it.

But this exchange is very peculiar. Shouldn't the prime minister be saying sorry to the former comfort women? Abe doesn't exactly have a good track record for making statements sympathetic to the victims. He hardly blinks when criticized at home, yet when things get heated in the United States, he immediately turns around and apologizes. ...

Perhaps Abe's apology worked to cool off the current criticism in the United States. But the bigger problem of how Japan should deal with its own history has not been really resolved.

Asahi Shimbun (Tokyo)

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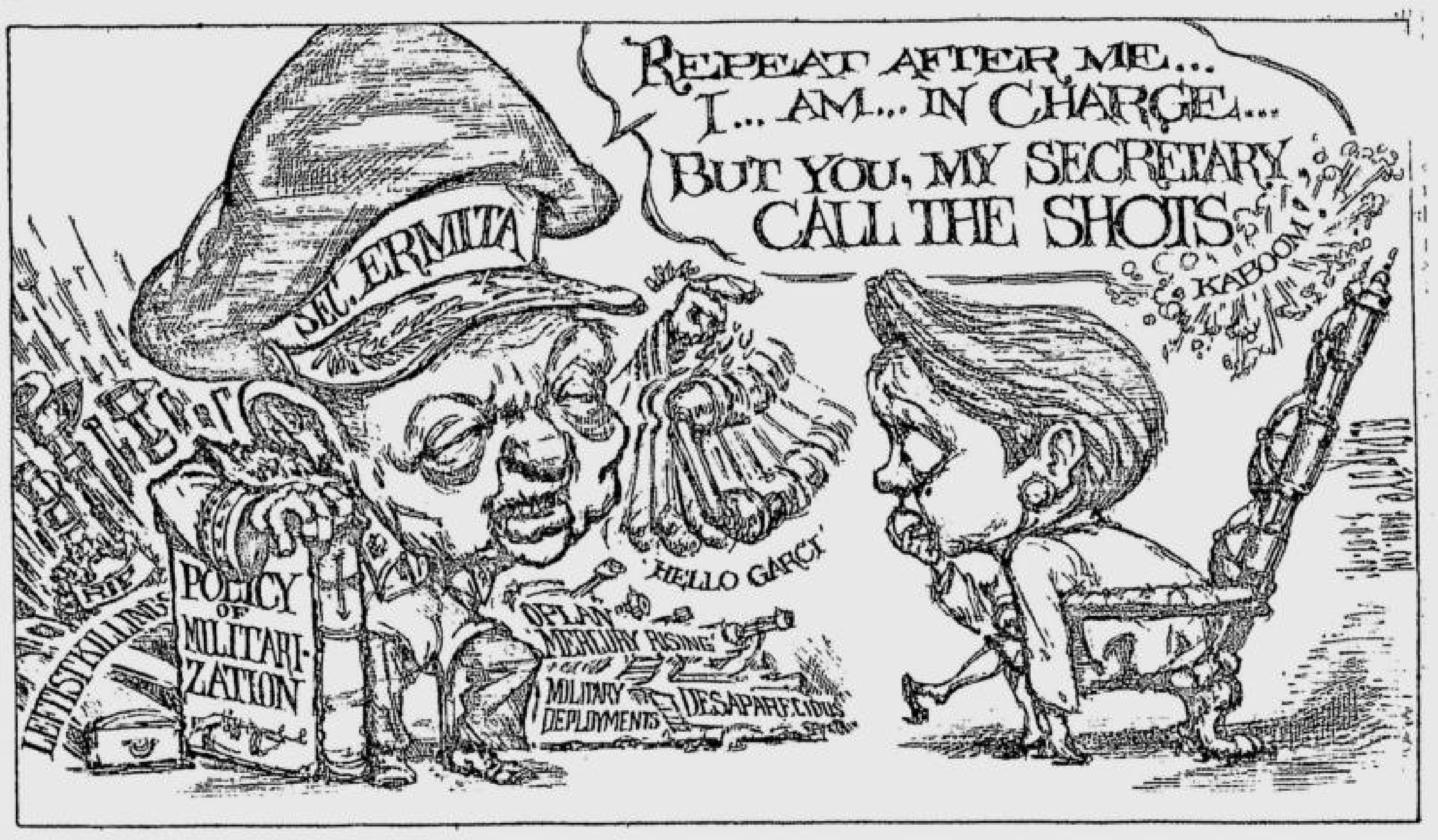

Fearless forecast; fights to watch

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

IT'S THREE DAYS TO ELECTION DAY AND IT'S time to make a fearless forecast. I think it will be a 6-4-2 finish in the senatorial race: six from the Genuine Opposition, four from Team Unity and two independents. That is, if the counting is honest. The boast of TU that "machinery" and "command votes" (which is the polite term for bought or coerced votes) will turn its impending defeat into victory is full of foreboding. "Machinery" for what—cheating?

We are witnessing the desperation of the administration, trying to stave off defeat through foul means, such as using the Commission on Elections and the Office of the Ombudsman to load the dice in its favor, fielding party-list candidates with concocted NGOs and its own candidates, and using the military to give administration candidates the edge. The prize, after all, is the head of President Macapagal-Arroyo no less.

Anyway, here is my fearless forecast—if the elections are clean and honest: the six GO winners will be Loren Legarda (who will top the race), Chiz Escudero, Manny Villar, Ping Lacson, Alan Peter Cayetano and Noynoy Aquino; the four TU winners will be Ralph Recto, Ed Angara, Joker Arroyo and Tito Sotto; and the two independents will be Kiko Pangilinan and Gringo Honasan.

Noynoy, Tito and Gringo can be overtaken by Migz Zubiri, Mike Defensor, Koko Pimentel and Sonia Roco.

Kulelat will be (from the bottom going up) Jamalul Kiram, Chavit Singson and Tessie Aquino-Oreta. (Candidates not included in the two major coalitions are not included.)

In spite of being the biggest spender, Prospero Pichay (his Surigao is the second or third poorest province in the Philippines, yet he himself is very prosperous—why? how?) will end up in the "*pechayan*" which, according to some observers, is worse than the better-known *kangkungan*.

* * *

The most interesting and most watched contests are the Binay-Lapid setto in Makati, the JDV-Benjie Lim fight in Pangasinan, the Manny-Darlene bout in South Cotabato, and the "quarry king"-"jueteng queen"-"church prince" free-for-all in Pampanga.

In Makati, the champion is Mayor Jojo Binay and the challenger is action star Lito Lapid. The actor has won all his fights in the movies, but in real life the betting is that he would get his comeuppance in the hands of Rambotito himself. The latter has a lock on the far more numerous voters in the depressed areas with his brand of patronage, but Lapid is the candidate of the First Family and therefore there is no limit to the help he will get—in the form of funds, legal legerdemain from the Ombudsman and the Department of Interior and Local Government, and strong arms from the police and military.

In Pangasinan, Speaker Joe de Venecia, who always won easily in previous congressional elections because he was able to buy off potential rivals, now faces a determined opponent in Dagupan City Mayor Benjie Lim. JDV no longer has the all-out support of his patron, former President Fidel V. Ramos, who has lost much of his clout since he left Malacañang. At the same time, many Pangalatoks are disappointed with JDV because during his several terms as speaker with billions of pesos at his disposal, he did not bother to bring progress to his home province.

On the other hand, Lim, the rising young star of Pangasinan politics, has been able to bring improvements to Dagupan during his short stint as mayor.

In South Cotabato, Darlene Antonino-Custodio has long been the sweet young princess. Now comes a brash, conceited and egoistic young prizefighter in the person of Manny Pacquiao who wants to dislodge the fair maiden from her throne as the representative of South Cotabato in Congress. Will a knight in shining armor representing the voters come to rescue her from the fire-breathing dragon called Pacman? I think so.

In Pampanga, the fight for the governorship is like a poker game with the "quarry king" (Gov. Mark Lapid) being challenged by the "jueteng queen" (Lilia Pineda, wife of alleged *jueteng* king Bong Pineda). The joker is a prince of the Church in the person of Fr. Ed Panlilio, who threw his hat into the political ring as a third choice for the Kapampangans.

Despairing at the original two choices, the Kapampangans welcomed the entry of Father Ed. If the priest is able to dislodge the two personifications of vice in the province, it would be as astounding as the People Power Revolt of 1986 that dislodged a dictator. But will there be enough intelligent Pampango voters to swamp the politics of money? I hope so.

* * *

Before ending this column, I would like to answer the many queries from voters asking for suggestions on whom to vote for senator. I already gave nine names in a previous column, and I will repeat some of them because of their advocacies.

On top of my list is Loren Legarda because she is pro-environment. So is Sonia Roco, whose other advocacy is education. Ed Angara's specialty is also education, being a former president of the University of the Philippines and the author of many laws on education.

Ping Lacson was able to bring discipline and efficiency to the Philippine National Police when he was its chief. We need him in the Senate to institutionalize improvements in the PNP.

Chiz Escudero was tireless, intelligent and articulate in the House. He will bring those same qualities to the Senate.

Antonio Trillanes is on the record as against the pork barrel system, the single biggest source of corruption in the Philippines. He has also many original ideas on reforms. If only for these, we should elect him.

Philippine democracy's Catch-22

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

WHEN I READ THE INQUIRER REPORT YESTERDAY on the scuffle at the Parola Compound in Tondo, I saw Philippine democracy caught in its own self-contradictions. Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. had ordered his troops to pull out of depressed Manila communities. A Roman Catholic bishop and some 50 demonstrators had massed up to evict the military contingent out of Parola, only to be jeered by the local residents, many of them literally shirtless, calling on the soldiers to stay.

The bishop and his faithful had the law and common sense on their side. Soldiers have no excuse being in urban centers, they argued. Policing the townships is the job of the police; soldiers should fight combatants, not unarmed civilians.

The Constitution no less declares that the "goal [of the Armed Forces] is to secure the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory." Unless Tondo was about to be invaded by Kim Jong-il, and all its hairdressers conscripted to do his pompadour, the AFP has no business being there. There is only a single but huge exception: when the President "calls out" such armed forces, suspends the writ of habeas corpus, or declares martial law, in case of "lawless violence, invasion or rebellion." But President Macapagal-Arroyo has issued no such order, having been rebuffed by the Supreme Court for issuing Proclamation 1017 on Feb. 24, 2006.

The bishop's group had braced themselves for a confrontation with the soldiers, but instead they were met by protesting grandmothers, children—and the shirtless men caught in several newspaper photographs. The local residents felt that the soldiers' night patrols kept their neighborhood safe from robberies and brawls. They thanked the AFP for its community service: fixing up the day care center and public toilets, and conducting medical missions. "They have been helping us. Only drug addicts and criminals would want to drive them away," the report quoted a 42-year-old man who has lived in Parola for the past 20 years. I imagine that it took the soldiers in combat fatigues to neutralize the local thugs who operated protection rackets with primitive weapons.

The activists' response was to blame it on false images. "We are now seeing the effects of the deception of the military, that they are here to solve criminality, repair roads and hold medical missions," they said. "But that is not their job. The police are in charge of peace and order. The Department of Health is there. The Department of Public Works and Highways should repair the roads."

I do not quite agree that deception alone explains Parola's fondness for the AFP. For sure, the military must leave police work to the Philippine National Police (the Constitution says, "one police force, which shall be national in scope and civilian in character"), and barring anything short of the valid exercise of the commander-in-chief powers of the President, they have no business operating in urban slums.

One would also be naïve to believe that the Parola show of support was absolutely spontaneous and unscripted, with nary a nudge from Esperon's minions. Make no mistake about it, had Esperon shown the slightest displeasure, would the Parolans have gone through with their loud protest?

But that bit about road repair and medical missions, well, it's too late in the day to complain. Winning our "hearts and minds" through "civil relations" has been stock-in-trade for the military since the days of the Vietnam War. I wouldn't begrudge military officials if they use their muscle to build houses instead of destroying them, if they choose to save lives instead of killing.

But that the residents of Parola would welcome, nay, seek the military's continued presence, that by itself speaks loudly about the two faces of Philippine democracy.

On Monday, May 14, Filipinos will once again exercise the franchise that they fought for and regained at Edsa in 1986. Fighting Marcos, we romanticized free and democratic elections as the antidote to dictatorship and militarization. Alas, we were wrong. The sovereign will of the people of Parola called for militarization, and I have a sneaking suspicion that many other Filipinos will go the way of the Parolans, and make the Hobbesian bargain. Parola merely shows us the gap between the activists and their masses, the contrast between the ideologues and their community workers.

The sad formula is this: We have a predatory government, attuned to rent-seeking opportunities, oblivious to the public good. That government controls the public coffers and the civilian and military bureaucracies, but it reigns at the forbearance of organized power elites—whether of the Right or the Left. These elites alone can marshal the warm bodies to protest in the streets or vote during elections.

The only check on these vast competing conspiracies is the raw power of the masses—yes, those shirtless men on newspaper photographs—unmediated by organized groups and moved solely by an untutored, intuitive sense of victimhood, yet as scary as the masses at Parola, plausibly honest and most probably manipulable.

And that is why all the competing groups swear by the Constitution—not because they truly believe in it in their heart of hearts, but because it offers a neutral matrix for power-sharing during a stalemate, and staves off the fear of a genuinely popular, if misguided, uprising. The Constitution will be discarded as soon as the stalemate is broken, and one group is in a position to grab power for itself.

* * *

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

Breaking point

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

VERY LITTLE HAS SURFACED IN PRE-ELECTION surveys to contradict claims that administration candidates are headed for a sweep of the congressional and local elections. Consequently, public attention has focused on the Senate election, where a series of poll surveys have consistently shown opposition candidates to be likely to take at least 8 of the 12 contested seats.

This expectation of a sweep on the congressional and local levels is based on nothing more solid than statistics showing the power of the administration's grass-roots political machine to deliver the "command votes" (about 10 percent-20 percent of the vote) that are counted upon to swamp the puny resistance being put up by a handful of opposition candidates.

Public interest requires a rigorous examination of the premises of this assumption of the inevitable triumph of the machine to deliver the votes. The public should not accept as given the assumption fostered by the administration that the outcome of the congressional and local elections has already been decided by the machine.

Statistics are touted to support the administration's expectations of a sweep. For example, the administration's seven-party coalition led by Lakas-CMD has in place 77 out of the 81 provincial governors, 194 out of 228 congressmen, 115 of 120 city mayors, and over 1,200 of 1,500 mayors. That profiles the machine. As for delivery of the command votes, estimated to number two million, GO has no candidates in more than 70 percent of the electorates nationwide. Even opposition strategists admit that the opposition has contested only 144 of the more than 230 congressional seats, and that only one-third of the 144 (40) are considered as "sure winners."

These estimates assume the best results for the administration. They further assume that the voters are robots, which is not the case. The outrage factor has apparently been taken out of the equation. Given the capacity of the administration to offend public opinion and to provoke outrage over its abuse of power, which tends to increase as election day approaches, there is a certain amount of volatility in public sentiment creating a backlash against these excesses. (The prospects of gagging Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita and Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrrez to limit their capacity to lose votes for administration candidates are dim.) The theory therefore of a 10 percent-20 percent machine-delivered command vote rests at best on pure hypothesis, arrogance or overconfidence. In plain words, it is foolish to discount a number of upsets on the congressional level.

The factor, outside of the party infrastructure, the administration strategists consider crucial in delivering the command vote is command of campaign logistics. The administration is repeating the machine-driven campaign that was responsible for the reversal of the early lead of Fernando Poe Jr. in 2004. Poe tended to lose ground as the campaign developed, which found him pathetically deficient in policy substance on which he disastrously clammed up. His charisma ran out in the long haul. At the time, the Garcillano tapes had not yet come up to tarnish the legitimacy of the President.

But 2004 was ages ago. The dynamic has changed since, as attested to by the persistently rock-bottom disapproval ratings of the President in the surveys.

The important perspective to consider is what makes the administration pull all stops on restraints on the abuse of power to win the election at all costs, even at the expense of damaging the constitutional fabric of rule of law and fair and free election. In playing its last card on the congressional and local elections, the administration has evidently issued the battle orders to its provincial troops. And these orders say, "They shall not pass!" The opposition shall not be allowed to breach the safety line. They shall not be allowed take more than 79 seats, the minimum number required to initiate impeachment action against the President in the House.

This is why the opposition has to battle tooth and nail for a few more seats to tip the balance. This is where the decisive phase of the Battle for the House is taking shape.

The provincial and mayoral seats have secondary importance. The governors and mayors are the President's fall back positions to counter political and military coups in Manila and provide applause during her State of the Nation Address.

The issue in the 2007 mid-term election is not over taking control of both Houses of Congress for the purpose of seizing control over policy or reversing highly controversial policies, such as on counter-insurgency. Neither the administration nor the opposition can realistically aspire to achieve this. Economic and fiscal policies are not key issues, although they are very important. The administration has bitten the bullet of the fiscal deficit with its fiscal reforms, which were pushed through despite an unruly Senate.

The latest Social Weather Stations survey, a week before the election, strengthens the hold of the opposition in taking at least six seats, although these are not enough to take control of policy. But this portends a fresh round of stalemates in the remaining years of this administration. The worst thing that can happen is for the administration to attempt to reverse the outcome of the Senate race and block all avenues for the opposition to increase its representation in the House by cheating.

That should never happen. That would be the breaking point that will bring about political catastrophe.

A killing in context

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

A RESIDENT OF LUBUAGAN, KALINGA, WHERE Fr. Francis Madhu, SVD, co-pastor of the Sts. Peter and Paul parish, was gunned down last Palm Sunday, asked a painful but necessary question of her town mates during the "Seven Last Words" meditation on Good Friday.

"The night (Father Francis') colleagues came to claim his body here, their SVD superior said Fr. Francis' death was a sacrifice," she began. "It was the will of God. But for me, it's too difficult to accept the term 'sacrifice.' Its meaning is too symbolic. A sacrifice for what? For us Lubuaganians? How many more lives (have) to be sacrificed for us to open our eyes and realize that we are rapidly approaching our town's downfall? What right do we have to claim Fr. Francis' death or anyone else's for that matter and call it a sacrifice?"

Her questions are rooted in an aspect of Kalinga culture that is still felt today, but has been distorted and twisted by an accompanying "culture" of gun violence. Clan or tribal conflicts have periodically rocked the otherwise peaceful Kalinga society. The tradition requires that if a member of one clan is killed or otherwise violated, his or her death or violation should be avenged. To avert a bloodbath, conflicts are settled at the "*bodong*" or village council level. But the proliferation of guns wielded by brash, unthinking young men has caused the phenomenon to spiral madly, way beyond the control of the village elders or of traditional means of mediation.

This is what the lay speaker at the Lubuagan Good Friday observance seemed to be alluding to when she asked how many other people would have to die before "we open our eyes and realize that we are rapidly approaching our town's downfall."

* * *

"MAY we look back and ponder if there have been any actions done to bring justice to the victims," added the speaker. "We talk and settle things in accordance with *bodong* proceedings, pay damages in terms of carabaos, cows, lands, money, etc. Then the law breakers go free again without further penalty or punishment as if killing a person is the most natural thing to do in the world and shouldn't be dealt with sensitivity and great care.

"And now, we've gone global. If we, his parishioners, are enraged and disconsolate about what happened to him, how much more ... his family and friends back in Indonesia who don't even have the chance to have one last look (at) his remains before he is laid to rest in Philippine soil?"

A common saying among missionary orders is that "you're buried where you are." This may seem cruel at a time when air transport makes the shipping of remains fairly common. But the practice—and the saying—emphasizes that when a missionary is sent to work in a far-away place or another land, he embraces the land of his mission and the people among whom he lives and works with.

In the case of Fr. Francis, transporting his remains presented great logistical difficulties, since he hailed from Flores, a remote island in Indonesia about three hours' plane ride from Jakarta on the island of Java. Neither could his family come here to bury him, as they were poor farmers and even just securing a passport for them so they could come to Manila in time for his funeral proved to be impossible.

* * *

FOR purposes of disclosure, I must add that I have a brother who is an SVD missionary, who belongs to the same Northern Philippines Province as Fr. Francis and who met the young Indonesian pastor a few weeks before his death. But it was I who wanted to know more about Fr. Francis and how he died, intrigued as I was not only by the circumstances of his death, but also why he was in Lubuagan in the first place.

The information about Fr. Francis came by way of a mailed packet from Fr. Gerry Gudmalin, SVD, Fr. Francis' co-pastor in Lubuagan and who, so I was told, was so devastated by his confrere's killing, feeling that he had somehow failed to "protect" his younger "brother" who was not only a foreigner but was just feeling his way around pastoral work.

By some coincidence, Fr. Gerry and I know each other, as he had hosted my husband and me some years ago when we went to Pinukpok, Kalinga, where he was then assigned, to give a lecture on journalism to high school students. In fact, my most vivid memory of the visit was about the night after our lecture when, as we were resting in the parish center, suddenly we heard gunfire outside. I quickly ducked under the table and my husband, who was in the bathroom, quickly scampered out. But an older Belgian missionary remained in his rocking chair, smilingly urging us to stay calm as, judging by the sound, the gunmen were fairly distant. In the morning, Fr. Gerry explained that the exchange of fire was most probably caused by a clan conflict.

Little did I know then that years later, I would be writing about a young Indonesian missionary who became the latest casualty of Kalinga's bloody conflicts.

* * *

HE may have died without family and childhood friends around him, but Fr. Francis was not alone when his SVD family bade him farewell.

At his funeral Mass, almost the entire SVD Northern Philippine province came down to Christ the King Church to bid farewell to him. Also present were other SVD confreres from around the country, including missionaries from other lands who had likewise done as Fr. Francis did: they had left their native soil behind and taken up residence in their place of mission. Also in, attendance were members of the Indonesian community in the Philippines, including the Indonesian ambassador. Though the Mass was celebrated in English, the burial rites were marked by Indonesian Mass songs and prayers, sending Fr. Francis to his real home in the language closest to his heart.

Election fraud at the Tejeros Convention

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

NINE YEARS AGO, I WROTE A 100-PART FRONT-page series for the INQUIRER to commemorate the Philippine Centennial. I was bumped off Page 1 only when more pressing political news came up. Apparently, history must give way to the present.

Little wonder then that the 110th anniversary of the death of Andres Bonifacio yesterday went largely unnoticed. This isn't neglect, rather it is selective remembering, an interplay between national memory and amnesia. People want to remember the firebrand who began the Revolution, not the man executed on Mt. Nagpatong for treason. People want to remember the shouting, bolo-wielding hero in the trademark red pants and white *camisa de chino* opened to the navel to reveal today's most sought after, sexy, six-pack abs. They don't want to remember the helpless wounded man begging for his life before he was shot (or perhaps hacked) to death on Mt. Buntis.

What we remember and what we forget say a lot about us as a people, and explain why things are the way they are today.

Reflecting on election ads on TV and the news following the last leg of the campaign, I noticed that underlying all the noise is a growing cynicism regarding the election process. All the moves to ensure and guard the ballots in the coming election, while welcome, indicate a deeper problem which is the lack of confidence in the election process. If mistrust shrouds the coming elections, we will not find closure afterwards. Instead there will be protests that will last till the next election.

To gain perspective today perhaps we should look beyond "Hello Garci," and go all the way back to the Tejeros Convention of 1897. As a historian, I can explore the dynamics of Tejeros, but what about the teachers who find it difficult to teach our children, and our children's children that the Founding Fathers might have cheated in the historic election, that gave us Emilio Aguinaldo as the first president of the Philippines? Of course, it has been argued, that cheating in the elections is not new. However, isn't it depressing to think that we have not gotten any better in this area in the last 110 years?

If you visit the Tejeros shrine, which was spruced up for the 1998 Philippine Centennial, what historical lesson do you learn? We are taught that Aguinaldo was elected president here, that Bonifacio had a temper tantrum and declared the elections null and void. But have we stopped to ask why Bonifacio's temper flared?

The bronze marker on the site installed by the Philippine Historical Committee in 1941 gives us part of the story:

"The Tejeros Convention. A revolutionary assembly was held March 22, 1897, in the building known as the Casa-Hacienda of Tejeros that once stood on this site, presided over by Andres Bonifacio. Toward the end of the session the assembly decided to establish a central revolutionary government and elected Emilio Aguinaldo, president; Mariano Trias, vice-president; Artemio Ricarte, captain-general; Emiliano Riego de Dios, director of war; and Andres Bonifacio, director of the interior. Certain events arising in the convention caused Bonifacio to bolt its action."

What were these "events" that made Bonifacio "bolt"? The marker leaves the reader to his imagination, or at best pushes the reader to dig up a history book and do research. How are we supposed to understand this part of our history? There is more to Bonifacio's temper tantrum than being questioned when he was elected director of the interior. In the published memoirs of participants to this event—Santiago Alvarez, Carlos Ronquillo, Emilio Aguinaldo, Andres Bonifacio and others—we can attempt to piece the jigsaw puzzle together.

Alvarez wrote of the proceedings:

"The Supremo Bonifacio appointed General Artemio Ricarte as secretary, then with the help of Mr. Daniel Tirona, he distributed pieces of paper to serve as ballots. When the ballots had been collected and the votes were ready to be canvassed, Mr. Diego Mojica, the Magdiwang Secretary of the Treasury, warned the Supremo that many ballots distributed were already filled out and that the voters had not done this themselves. The Supremo ignored this remark. He proceeded with the business at hand as if nothing unusual had happened."

The resulting election had Aguinaldo winning (in absentia) as president. And it was a fine birthday gift for him.

When it came to the election of the vice president, we have Ricarte who narrated:

"Severino de las Alas remarked that in as much as Andres Bonifacio had secured the second largest number of votes in the election for president, he should be proclaimed vice president. No one expressed a wish to speak in favor of or against the suggestion of De las Alas, wherefore the chairman ordered that the election proceed, and this being done, it resulted in a majority of votes being cast for Mariano Trias Closas as against Andres Bonifacio, Severino de las Alas and Mariano Alvarez."

Why was there no motion for or against De las Alas' proposal? If Bonifacio garnered the second-highest number of votes for the presidency, why didn't he get enough to be elected vice president? And what about the alleged cheating, the *dagdag-bawas*?

History is not dead and useless. We must go beyond textbook history to understand the past and provide perspective on the present.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

To vote or not to vote

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

I HAVE FRIENDS WHO ARE SERIOUSLY THINKING ABOUT not voting, because they are so overwhelmed by the feeling that the administration will cheat massively, so why bother.

A sizeable proportion of the population—the youth—have already disengaged themselves by not even bothering to register. Yes, government was so anemic with voter registration, but I suspect that even if Comelec had been more aggressive, many young people would still have kept away. Young people, even at the University of the Philippines with its militant reputation, have become so disillusioned with politics. Their concern now is to get a diploma so they can leave to work overseas.

I share a lot of the pessimism, and seriously considered not voting. At one point, I even accepted an invitation to deliver a keynote address at an overseas conference right on Election Day but eventually begged off because I thought, now more than ever, voting does matter.

Local battles

Our pessimism comes about mainly with our focus on national politics. For this election, the public opinion polls clearly show the opposition will retain its hold on the Senate, so there are fears that the administration will cheat to alter the results there, and that after the elections, all would be lost.

It's time we shifted attention and looked instead at the arenas where the more important battles have to be fought. I'm referring to local governments, the races on the provincial and municipal or city levels. Local governments have tremendous powers because of decentralization and can make a huge difference.

The now defunct Newsbreak had a special issue last year highlighting best practices of local governments, showing how we are moving forward, albeit slowly. I was impressed, for example, with an article about Quezon City's management of its finances, a gargantuan task considering its income has reached the billion-peso mark.

Family planning is another example. The national government does not want to touch this, fearing the ire of the President and conservative Catholic bishops, but many local governments are quietly implementing their programs, purchasing the needed contraceptives and intensifying family planning education. In Iloilo, several mayors banded together to implement programs that go a step further, integrating environmental conservation with family planning.

Much can be done at the local government level and successful initiatives can create a bandwagon effect, with officials imitating and eventually trying to outdo each other with good governance. I've been part of the Ateneo's Leaders for Health Program, which started out with a few municipal health officers, all physicians, being trained to form teams with local government officials to bring health reforms. After the first batch, some mayors and governors and provincial health officers were asking if they could join in.

I am sure there are many other local leaders out there, working their own miracles in the field of education, agricultural production, microfinance, even heritage conservation.

Mavericks

Do competent leaders stand a chance in our elections? I'm cautious here. I get depressed hearing from friends outside of Manila, telling me of administration-backed mayors, even governors, running unopposed. There are also depressing stories about the congressional races, a crucial area where national and local politics interface. The administration knows it is crucial they get the numbers here, to stop any new impeachment procedures.

Yes, the machinery of the Arroyo administration is awesome, but I can't help but sense desperation in the way it has been throwing out money. I hear of so many provinces and towns where all the candidates get "donations" from the administration, a way of betting on all the horses.

Grim as the battles are, I also hear of a new generation of politicians somehow making progress even with minimal resources. The best example is the maverick Danton Remoto, who is running for Congress in the third district of Quezon City. After he was rebuffed trying to get Ang Ladlad registered as a gay and lesbian party-list organization, he tried to run for the Senate, and was again spurned by the Comelec. Now running for Congress, he actually stands a good chance of becoming the first openly gay member of Congress.

Maybe it was just as well that Ang Ladlad wasn't accredited because Remoto has expanded his platform to include many other political issues, from impeaching Arroyo to environmental conservation. And he seems to be making headway because the third district has a good mix of constituents, from the chattering classes who live around Loyola and Katipunan to the hard-nosed blue- and white-collar workers of Project 4. Remoto defies political stereotypes, being a writer and a poet, and a professor at the Ateneo. He says he has the support of Catholic groups, emphasizing this includes both "the single and the coupled."

The ultimate stake

Get real, my friends tell me, a few local governments can't make a difference. I'd argue they can, not just for the local community but for the country. It's not just a matter of creating a bandwagon effect but also of countering the epidemic of pessimism and cynicism that has engulfed us. After I read the Newsbreak issue last year, I sent it to an American foundation that I work with. They were impressed, and have committed funds to two of our universities to propagate some of the examples of good governance in the area of health care.

Many Filipinos are unaware of another unseen crisis that has accompanied our political crisis: international donor agencies have been pulling out or reducing their funds in the country. It parallels the weak inflow of money from international investors.

The government likes to boast of international money coming in but these are mostly portfolio investments, foreigners playing with our stock market and bonds, rather than investments in job-creating businesses. The reason for the donors' and the business investors' caution is simple: they do not see democratic processes evolving. There's too much uncertainty, too much arbitrariness in the national government. But wiser donors and business people see a way out, identifying local governments with competent leaders, and putting their money in these towns and provinces.

The nation is in crisis, but it's not the usual acute kind, with massive street rallies and protest actions. It's more of a continuation of a chronic crisis that's simmered through the years, often going into a boil as more people become disenchanted with our Enchanted Kingdom. The danger is that instead of boiling over, our democratic system might just dry up, like a water kettle that's been kept on low boil and forgotten.

Our votes are our investments, our way of showing that despite the national government, despite the President, we still have enough faith in the system to vote for leaders who can hold the fort, keep democracy going until 2010, and beyond.

LETTERS

Myth of boom without industrialization

DESPITE THE GOEBBELS-LIKE TRUMPETING by the Arroyo administration and by its Lakas and Kampi allies that the Philippines under their (mis)rule has experienced an economic boom, a World Bank report (released on April 5, 2007) revealed that our country is in fact an economic failure, if seen in the light of the average rates of growth in the East Asia region in 2006.

According to the WB report, "East Asia & Pacific Update—Ten Years after Asia's Financial Crisis," East Asia experienced a "strong overall regional outcome for 2006," expanding "at energetic 8-10 percent rates in low income economies like Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia and Vietnam," with China leading the group. "Regarding poverty, it is estimated that the number of poor people in East Asia and the Pacific at the $2 a day level fell to some 552 million in 2006 (29 percent of the population)," the report added.

So how can the administration boast that our country has been experiencing an economic boom since 2001, when the highest growth it achieved was in 2004 at 6.1 percent (5.9 percent according to foreign sources)? In 2006, our GDP growth fell to 5.4 percent (from 5.9 in 2005), way below the 8 percent-10 percent growth rate achieved by other countries in East Asia. While the average poverty incidence across the region is 29 percent, ours remains at 40 percent, this according to the CIA Factbook and the Asian Development Bank.

The ADB has said the Philippines must achieve a growth rate of 8 percent for two continuous decades to experience an economic take-off. Based on the WB report card and the ADB goal, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her allies are behaving like a pupil who proudly tells his parents that he received a grade of 50 percent or 60 percent at the end of the school year, even though the passing average is 75 or 80. So what is there to boast about? Only a hopelessly stupid pupil would be proud of a failing grade. It appalls us even more that GMA and her gang are leaders of dubious legitimacy.

They should realize that the reason the Philippines has been left behind in the economic race is because its so-called leaders have given up industrialization as an option for our country. They are stuck to the agricultural and services model of development, the model of a feudal, slave society.

We cannot leapfrog to the ICT stage of development without acquiring industrial skills. It is like learning to drive by reading a book, without ever actually driving a car, or learning to fly a jet by simulation in a home computer. No nation has ever reached the technological stage without first industrializing. Our leaders are fooling us at the behest of our neo-colonial masters.

—MANUEL F. ALMARIO,
mfalmario@yahoo.com

Innocent people should be able to defend selves

THIS REFERS TO THE LETTER "A QUESTION for gun clubs." (INQUIRER, 4/27/07) I can appreciate the author's concern about gun ownership and gun clubs after what happened at Virginia Tech.

Last week, a former Miss America was having a stroll in the park in one of the US states when two men tried to molest and rob her. However, this lady packed a .38 Smith and Wesson and she shot one of the attackers and had the other scampering away. If she just had a knife or were gunless, she would have been very dead by now.

The argument against bearing arms can also be used about driving a car (which, by the way, packs heavier and bigger "bullets" than the Glock). It's also possible for a "crazed driver," even at a speed of 20 kph, to run over dozens of people in a market and hurt, even kill, hundreds before the police can stop him. Such an incident has actually happened here in the United States: a despondent old man drove into a child care center and killed little children. But did anyone call for a review of the policies on car ownership?

I have yet to hear news that a member of a gun club had robbed a bank, a liquor store, or another person, or had gone crazy and killed someone. Only those who don't know how to be responsible gun owners are the ones who go on a shooting rampage. Maybe, the solution here is a more strict testing/screening system for accommodating gun buyers just like what we have before issuing a license to drive a car.

I understand how one would feel on the loss of so many precious lives. Something or someone needs to be blamed. The weapon is the handiest thing there is. But how about the parents, genetics, the country where the killer is from, the law, the law enforcement, the school security, the peer pressure and bullying of races, the insensitivity of friends, the pressure to do well in school to avoid embarrassment as a matter of family, etc.? All of these and much more should be addressed.

Worse than guns are unkind words, bullying peers and apathetic (uncaring) friends and family. Bullets are more kind because they kill a person instantly. But abusive words kill the victims slowly, making them suffer for years, long before their physical death.

There is no excuse for killing innocent and harmless people; therefore, innocent and harmless people should be given the chance to defend themselves. Still, the safe use of guns is a paramount concern and and must be assured at all costs.

—PERRY ALCUDIA,
alcudia_pr@hotmail.com

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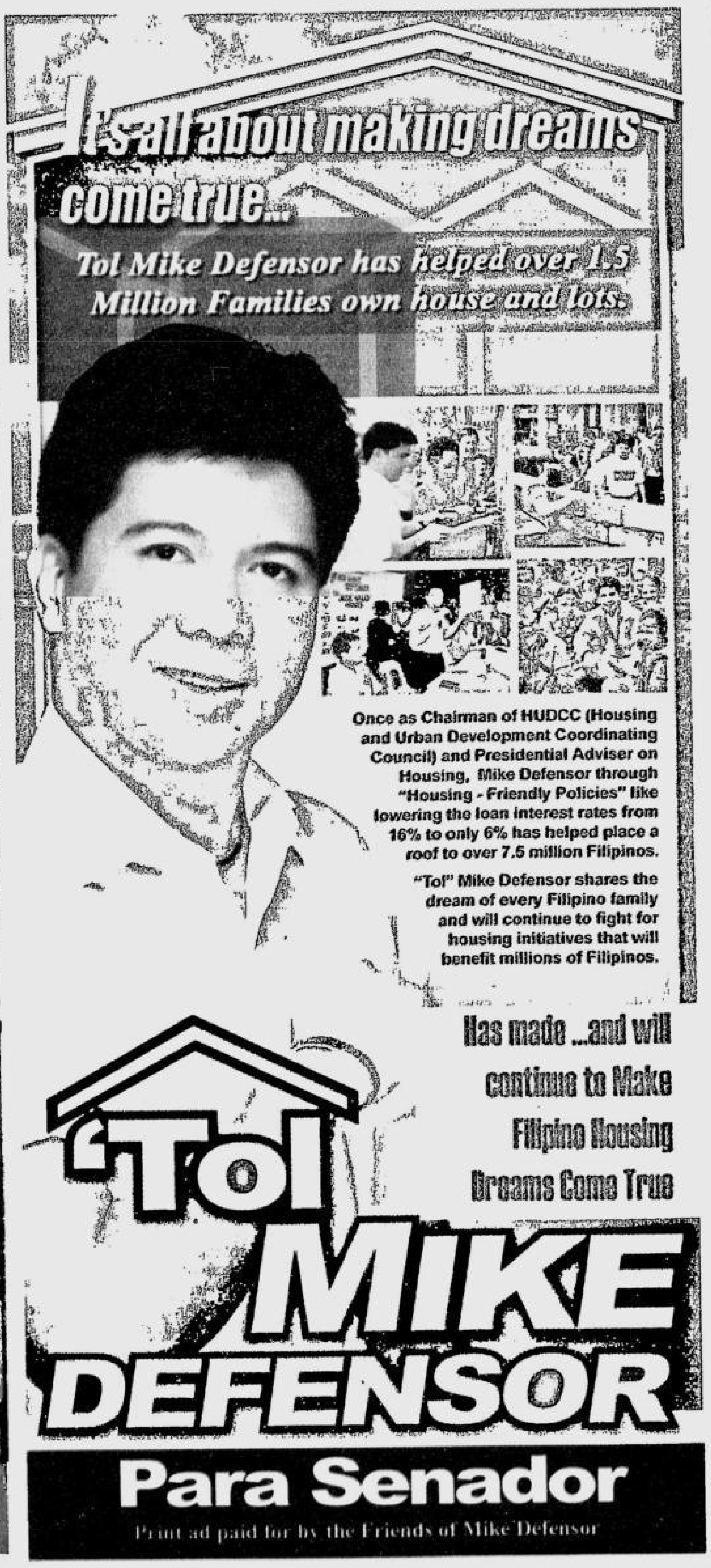
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Three Young Men – *"The big difference between the likes of... (three young senatoriables) ...on the one hand, and Zubiri, on the other, is that Zubiri immersed himself in public service to feed his ambition, whereas the former just focused on their ambition."*

-Domini M. Torevillas, The Philippine Star, 24 March 2007

Unlike Rabble-Rousers, Zubiri Has Solid Bill – *"The two (senatoriables) were busy getting media mileage for their attacks against administration, by contrast, Migz Zubiri has been busy putting together his landmark Biofuels Act that was signed into law."*

- Belinda Olivares-Cunanan, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 27 March

House Records Show Zubiri Most Prolific Lawmaker – *"Juan Miguel Zubiri was the most prolific among the five congressmen running for the Senate in the May 14 elections"*

- Delon Porcalla, The Philippine Star, 15 February 2007

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SC ousts Pampanga mayor

By Leila B. Salaverria

WITH A FEW DAYS TO GO BEFORE the May 14 elections, the Supreme Court ordered the mayor of a Pampanga town to vacate his seat for exceeding the three consecutive terms limit on elected officials.

The high court ruled that Mabalacat Mayor Marino Morales' current 2004-07 term was his fourth after it considered his 1998-2001 term a full term despite his poll victory having been subsequently overturned by the Angeles City Regional Trial Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that Vice Mayor Cris Garbo should replace Morales until June 30, the end of his present term.

Morales was first elected mayor in 1995. He said that since his 1998-2001 second term was voided, it should not have counted as a full term as he was only a "caretaker of the office."

"Whether as caretaker or de facto officer, he exercised the powers and enjoyed the prerequisites of the office which enabled him to stay on indefinitely. Respondent Morales should be promptly ousted," the Supreme Court said in its May 9 decision.

It canceled his certificate of candidacy for the 2004 elections and said the votes cast in his favor should not have been counted. It declared the position of mayor vacant and directed Garbo to assume the post.

The Commission on Elections' 2nd Division had disqualified Morales from the mayoral race on May 6, 2004, but the latter appealed the ruling. On March 14, 2005, the Comelec en banc reversed the division's ruling. The Comelec said that since his 1998 proclamation was voided, he was not considered to have served three consecutive terms from 1995.

But Morales' rival for the mayoral post in 2004, Anthony Dee, filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging Morales' eligibility.

Party-list solons hail troop recall

PARTY-LIST LAWMAKERS YESTERDAY greeted with relief Armed Forces Chief Gen. Hermogenes Esperon's order pulling out military troops from the slums of Metro Manila.

"That's a positive development. But I hope the pullout is permanent. But if it's not going to be permanent, I hope they should get a permanent order from the Commander-in-Chief," said Bayan Muna member Teodoro Casiño in a phone interview.

Casiño said the legal basis for the deployment of 260 officers and men in 19 depressed Metro Manila barangays was always questionable as it was not backed by a written order from President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Esperon ordered the pullout last Wednesday to "remove suspicions" the troops would influence the conduct and results of Monday's elections.

The deployment has kicked up a storm of protest from militant groups, Church leaders and human rights organizations following complaints the Army soldiers were harassing and surveilling party-list group members.

The military gave different reasons for the deployment, claiming this was either a part of civil-military operations, a counter-insurgency campaign, or preparations for deployment in strife-torn countries.

Another Bayan Muna legislator, Satur Ocampo, scoffed at Esperon's stated reason for the pull-out, saying it was a "tactical retreat."

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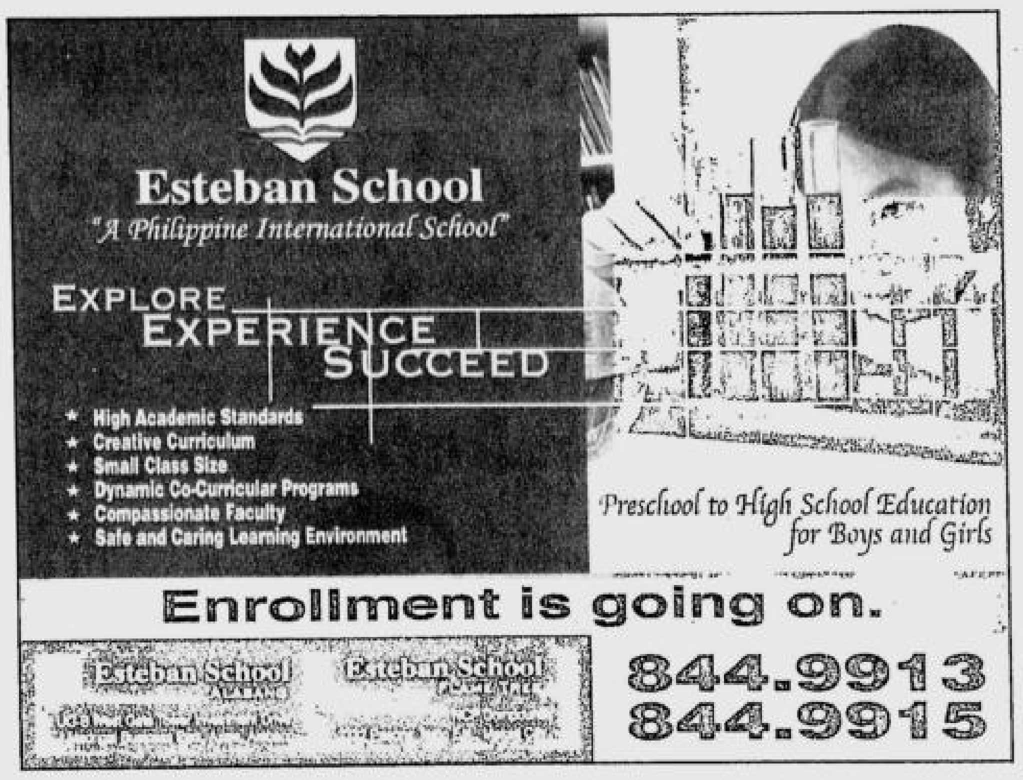

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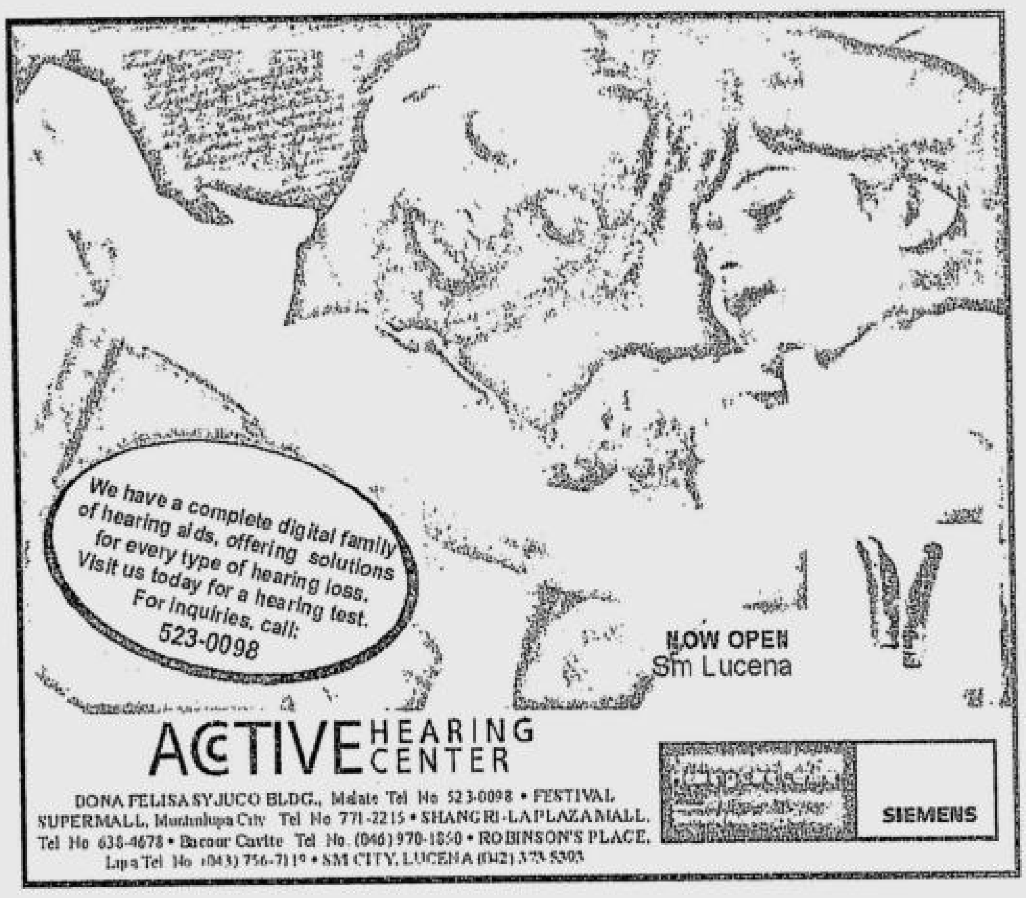

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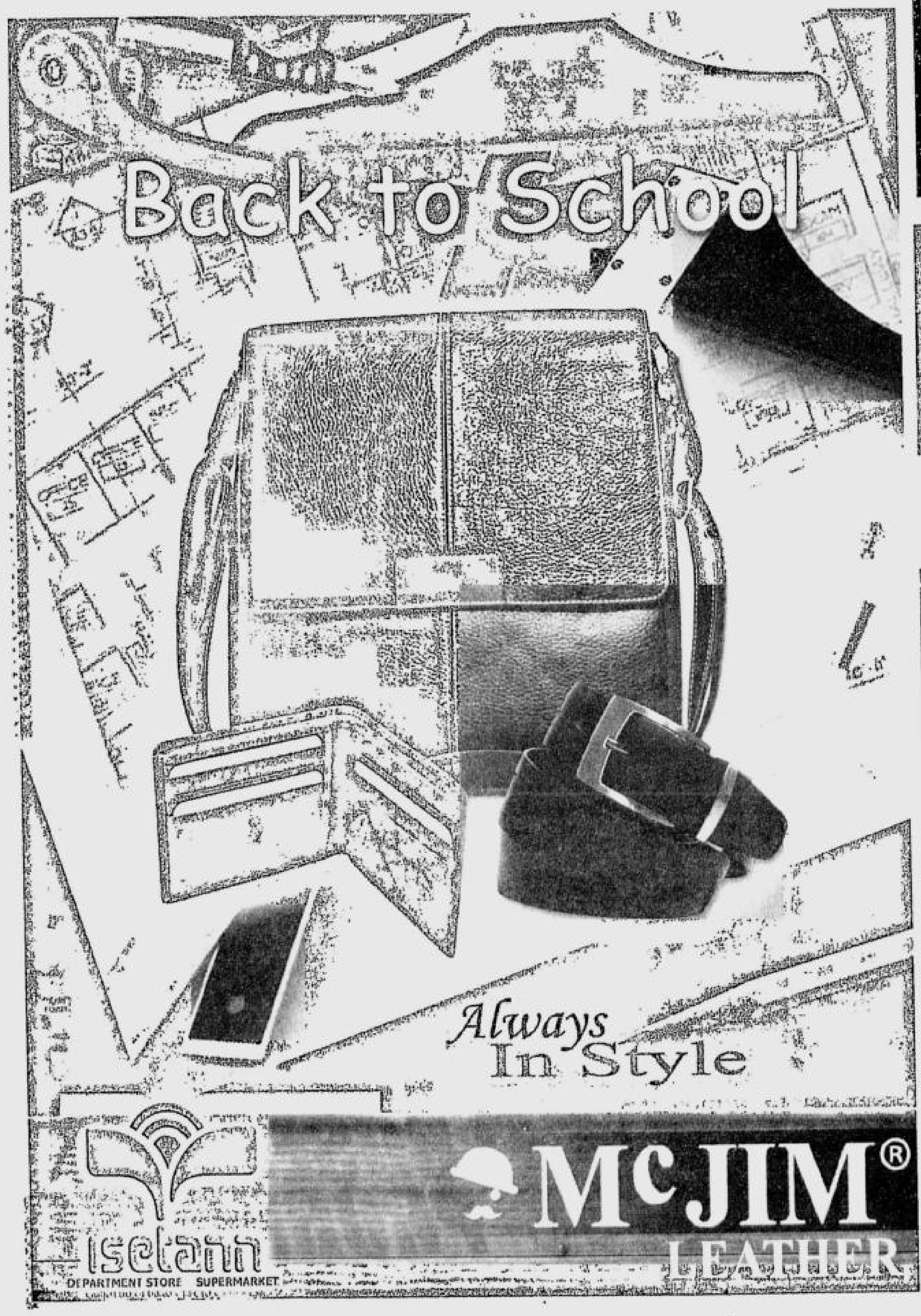

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5 cops killed, 5 hurt in Mindoro land mine blast

By Marlon Ramos
Inquirer Southern Luzon

CAMP VICENTE LIM, LAGUNA—COMMUNIST rebels waylaid a group of policemen as their patrol vehicle hit a land mine in a far-flung village in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro, on Thursday, killing five officers and wounding five others.

Senior Supt. Audie Arroyo, Occidental Mindoro police director, said the policemen were on their way to secure the political rally of reelectionist Gov. Josephine Sato, a staunch supporter of the government's anti-insurgency program.

Arroyo said the five policemen died on the spot after the service vehicle they were riding in hit a land mine along a feeder road in Sitio Tugtugin, Barangay Batasan, San Jose, at around 7:30 a.m. He identified them as PO3 Leonardo Medilla and Police Officers 2 Nelson Barrientos, Gabriel Ordanes, Rommel Caleze and Alberto Hilario.

Wounded were Police Officers 3 Elmer Legayada and Mario Barbosa, Police Officers 2 Joel Viscarra and a certain Villaflores, and PO1 Ronnie Rivera.

Arroyo said the victims were part of a 15-member advance security detail of Sato who was supposed to attend a 10 a.m. *miting de avance* at the capital town.

When the land mine exploded, some 30 New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas opened fire at the policemen, he said.

"Some of my men were walking ahead of the vehicle. When the land mine exploded, the NPAs started shooting. They apparently used the explosion as a signal when to attack," Arroyo said in a mobile phone interview.

The policemen shot it out with the rebels who eventually withdrew to the mountains after a few minutes.

Arroyo said his men saw the rebels carrying at least two wounded comrades on a makeshift stretcher.

Reached on her mobile phone, Sato condemned the attack, saying it only proved why the government must end the "reign of terror" of the rebel group.

She said she decided to cancel her political rally to attend to the families of the slain policemen.

"The people of Occidental Mindoro are angry with what had happened. This is a different kind of violence. Why is this happening? Is this the NPA's way of saying that it would be hard for me to win the in the elections?" she said.

Sato, who survived two ambuscades of the NPA, believed that she was the real target of the attack. "If not for my advance security team, I would have been dead by now," she said.

Three months ago, the governor publicly denounced the NPA for collecting the so-called "permit to campaign." She also urged her fellow candidates not to give in to the rebels' demands.

Fr. Philip Alcantara, chair of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV) and director of the Diocesan Social Services Commission in Occidental Mindoro, condemned the attack as "uncalled for." *With a report from Madonna Virola, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

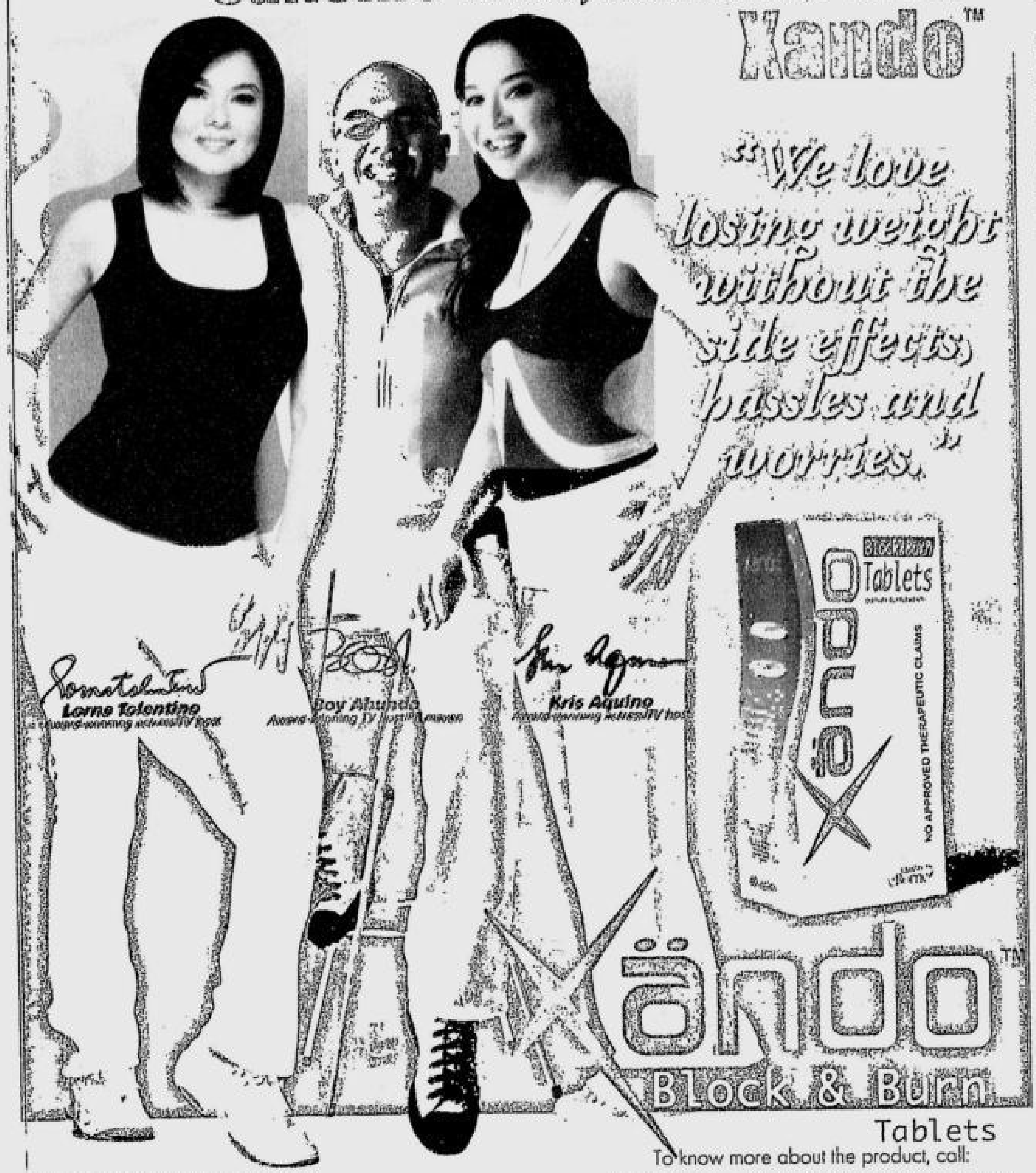
Vote 'green,' 7 bishops urge

SEVEN CATHOLIC BISHOPS LED BY Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Yñiguez Jr. have issued a pastoral statement calling on Filipino voters to choose candidates that are not only pro-poor but pro-environment, as well.

The pastoral statement, which was also signed by Bishops Jose Manguiran of Dipolog City, Nereo Odchimar of Tandag, Surigao del Sur, Dinualdo Gutierrez of Marbel, Cotabato, Ramon Villena of Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, Jose Corazon Tala-oc of Romblon, and Warlito Cajandig of Calapan, Mindoro Oriental, urged voters to "search their conscience" and carefully study each candidate's platform and track record on logging, mining and environmental protection.

Alyansa Tigil Mina (ATM), the organization that mobilized this effort, chose Bishop Yñiguez to lead the signing of the statement on the basis of his active involvement in environmental issues, especially his opposition to large-scale mining activities in 15 dioceses nationwide.

For inquiries on ATM and its activities, call 426-6740, e-mail nc@phildhrra.org, visit 59 C. Salvador St., Loyola Heights, Quezon City, or log on to www.phildhrra.org.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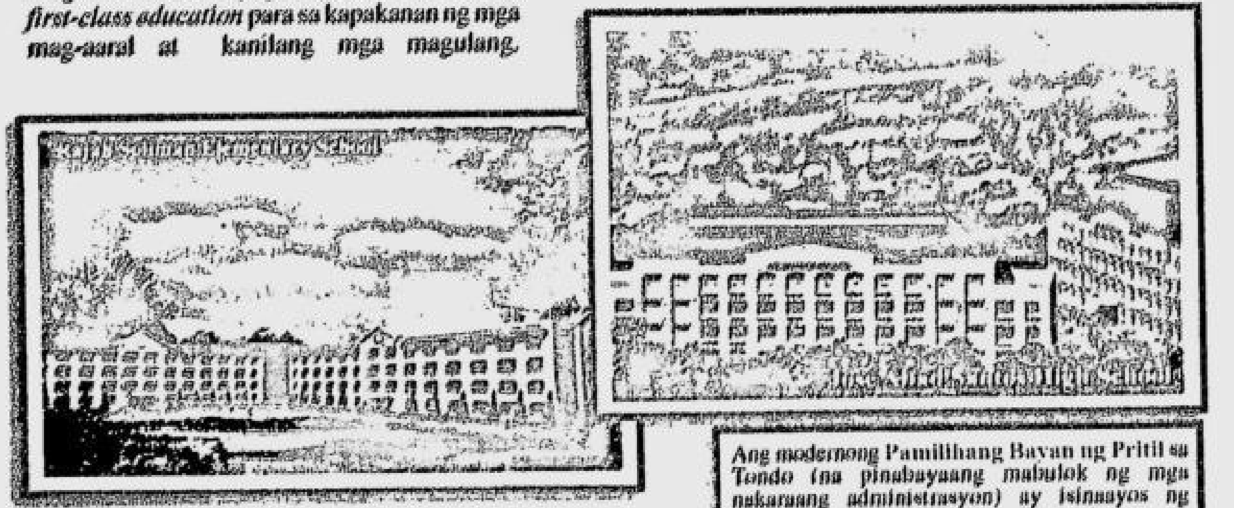
Ang makabagong Rajah Soliman Elementary School at Jose Abad Santos High School (kabilang na ang dormitoryo para sa mga guro) ay ipinatayo upang mailipat lamang ang mga ito sa mas nararapat nitong lugar kung saan mas makapagbibigay pa ng libreng *first-class education* para sa kapakanan ng mga mag-aaral at kanilang mga magulang.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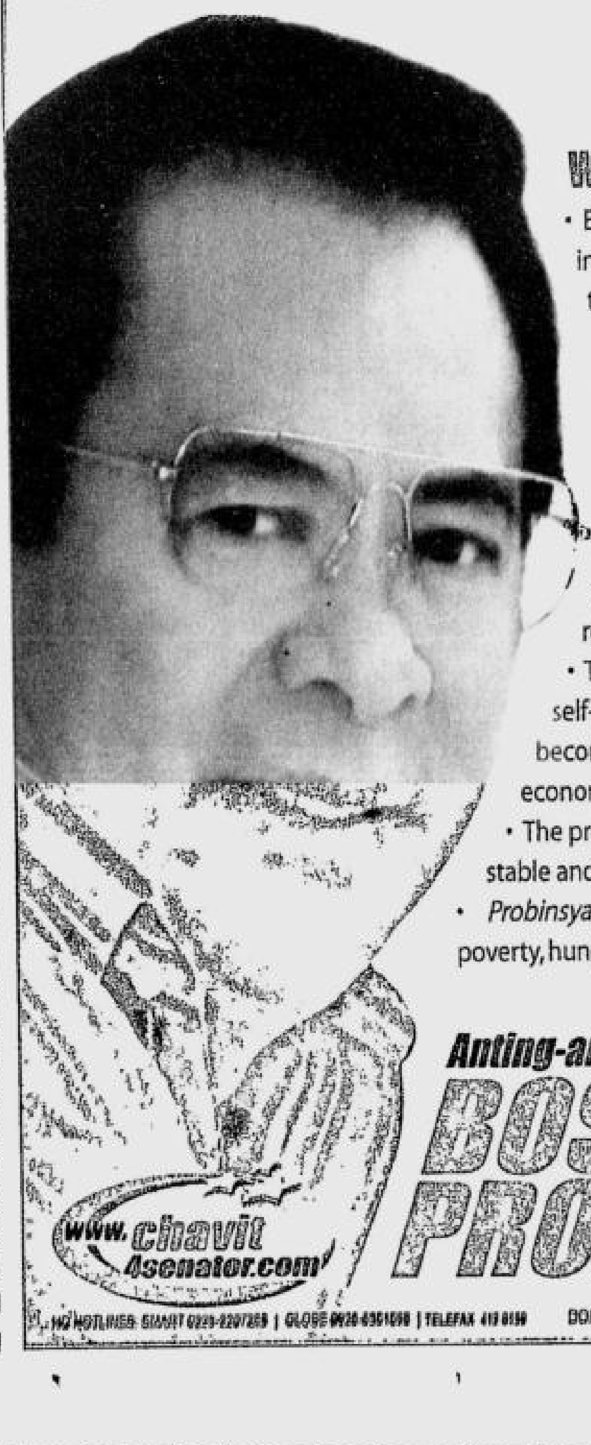
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benlnavarro@yahoo.com

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Mobile : 0915 6977844
Email : la_sola2003@yahoo.com

Ms. Leah Andal, Co-Chairperson District 2
Mobile : 0917 6270436
Email : leahandal20@yahoo.com

June Pearl "japs" Simpas, Chairperson District 3
Tel. No : 913 8098
Mobile : 0921 2108676
Email : japs_simpas@yahoop.com

Joseph Quesada, Chairperson District 4
Ofc. No: 926 6046

San Juan

George Escarraga, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (02) 412 5722
Email : george.escarraga@gmail.com

Mr. Victor Mendoza, Co-Chairperson
Res. No: 524 6754
Fax No : 523 9121

Taguig City

Pearlito San Pedro, Chairperson
Tel. No : (02) 376 5942
Mobile : 0906 4889517
Email : pearlito012673@yahoo.com

Limuel Espino, Co-Chairperson
Tel/Fax (02) 410-0598
Email : limuel_espiNo@yahoo.com

Magiting C. Magat, CSP
Tel. No : (02) 5412734; (02) 8384966-74
Fax No : (02) 8385230; (02) 8390406
Email : mcmagat@psitechNologies.com.ph

Atty. Romeo delos Santos, District Chairperson
Mobile : 0917 8823028

Valenzuela City

Pastor Napoleon "Nap" Saluba, Chairperson
Res. No : (02) 278 2986
Email : napsaluba@yahoo.com.ph

Flor Saluba David, Co-Chairperson
Res. No : (02) 278 2986
Mobile : 0917 4092589

Pastor Manny Valeroso, Chairperson District 1 Valenzuela City
TeleFax No : 291 1205
Email : valeroso98@yahoo.com

Pastor Jester Azarcon, Chairperson District 2 Valenzuela City
Res. No: 278 4008

NORTHERN LUZON

Abra

Fr. Renato Amasl, Chairperson
Tel. No : (074) 752 8635/ 752 8040
Fax No : (074) 752 8020/ 752 8635
(Social Devt. Center)
Mobile : 0917 6265262

Benguet

Fr. Mario Tambic, Chairperson
Tel. No : (074) 4423756; (074) 4438004
(074) 4434327 (Ms. Linde Tindo/Graco)
Fax No : (074) 4425748
Email : liforsa@Digitelone.com;
Email : sacbaguio2003@yahoo.com
Mobile : 0928 3082883 / 0915 9809421
0920 5033059 (SAC)

Mountain Province

Fr. Valentin C. Dimoc, Chairperson
Tel. No : (074) 602 1237 (Bontoc)
TeleFax No : (074) 462 4292
Mobile : 0916 3637324
Email : valcd2006@yahoo.com.ph
arolf@yahoo.com.ph
bontoclagawe@yahoo.com

Ifugao

Fr. John Marlon Buyawegan, Chairperson
Tel. No : (074) 602 1237
(074) 382 2118 (Ifugao)
TeleFax No: (074) 462 4292
Mobile : 0918 5401129
Email : ammannn@bgo.csl.com.ph

Kalinga-Apayao

Bro. Jefrey Balingao, Coordinator
Mobile : 0919 3616839
Email : jefzski@yahoo.com

Ilocos Norte

Fr. Leonardo Ruiz, Coordinator
Tel. No : (077) 772 1020
Fax No : (077) 772 1805
Mobile : 0917 4735615
Email : dsac@yahoo.com

Ilocos Sur

Ms. Norma Andallo, Coordinator
Mobile : 0919 2602745
Tel. No : (077) 722 2018; 722 2019
Fax No : (077) 722 1591
Email : abpsalgado@yahoo.com.ph

La Union

Rev. Fr. Gary Zaldy Patiag, Chairperson
TeleFax No: (Chancery) 072-8882353
Tel. (Seminary) 072-8885436/705 1245
Mobile : 0920 9204928
Mobile : 0917 4650688 (Andrea)

Pangasinan (Alaminos & Dagupan)

Estrella "Ester" Alkonga, Coordinator
Direct Line: (075) 654 0058
Tel. No : (075) 551 6122;(075) 552 7062
Fax No : (075) 552 7062
Mobile : 0917 6493638
Email : ealkonga@yahoo.com

Pangasinan (Urdaneta)

Fr. Jesus Melvyn Bufete, Coordinator
T/F : (075) 568 2670
Tel. No : (075) 568 2535; 585 3112;
568 8216 (contact: Ma'am Marina)
Fax No : (075) 568 1140

Batanes

Fr. Richard Castillo, Coordinator
Mobile : 0917.566.1674
Email : dasein1674@yahoo.com

Cagayan

Fr. Manuel Vicente Catral, Coordinator
Tel. No : (078) 846 2821
Fax No : (078) 846 2822; (078)844 1333
Email : man91570@hotmail.com

Mobile : 0920 9135437
Sec: Josephine 0919 4983361

Isabela

Fr. Antonio Ancheta, Chairperson
Tel. No : (078) 6223395
Fax No : (078) 6223123 Contact: Rolly
Mobile : (0919) 3957600
Email : ilagandsac@yahoo.com

Nueva Vizcaya & Quirino

Sr. Eden Orlino, SPC, Coordinator
Tel. No :(078) 321 4050;(078) 321 2687
Fax No : (078) 805 3940
Mobile : 0917 5680231
Email : edenorlino@yahoo.com

Aurora

Fr. Israel Gabriel
Tel. No : (042) 535 7112
Mobile : 0920 7400154
Email : israel_49gabriel@yahoo.com

Bataan

Pastor Johnny Tomboc, Chairperson
Tel. No : (047) 273 3643
Fax No : (047) 237 6896
Mobile : 0921 4343713
Email : jbtomboc@yahoo.com
fstomboc@yahoo.com

Bulacan

Rev. Almario Termulo & Ray Eramis, Co-Chairs
T/F : (044) 840 2906
Mobile : 0917 5171500
Email : altermulo@yahoo.com
Contact: Elsie

Nueva Ecija

Fr. Aldrin B. Domingo, Chairperson
Tel. : (044) 463 0388 / 463 3849
Fax No : (044) 463 7695

Pampanga

Fr. Francis F. Dizon, Chairperson
Work : (045) 961 3562; 961 4316;
(045) 860 5337
Fax No : (045) 961 4112
Email : sacop@comclark.com

Tarlac

Mr. Randy Palma, Chairperson
Mobile : 0916 8514403

Zambales

Rev. Fr. Hanival G. Brucelas, Chairperson
Tel. No : (047) 222 2050
Mobile : 0920 9020594
Email : saczambales@yahoo.com

SOUTHERN LUZON

CALABARZON

Cavite

Rev. Fr. Carlito Laureta, Chairperson
Tel. No : (046) 412 1508
Fax No : (046) 471 3232
Email : pbaclean@yahoo.com

Fr. Alain P. Manalo, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (046) 471 3232
Fax No : (046) 471 3232

Laguna

Fr. Rene B. Eriga, Chairperson
Tel. No : (049) 246 6515
Fax No : (049) 561 1857
Email : saclag_7@yahoo.com

Batangas

Rev. Fr. Dakila M. Ramos, Chairperson
Tel. No : (043) 756 1547
Fax No : (043) 981 4410

Rev. Fr. Edilberto Ramos, Jr.
Tel. No : (043) 756 5581
Fax No : (043) 756 5581
Email : lasac89@yahoo.com

Rizal

Bishop Gabriel Reyes, DD, Chairperson
Tel. No : (02) 696 4383; 697 0774
Fax No : (02) 696 4384; 697 6708
Email : antipolobishop@catholic.org

Fr. Larry Paz, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (02) 941-7531; 941-3735
Fax No : (02) 941-7531
Email : bricks@pldtdsl.net

Ma. Socorro Pring, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (02) 696 5310
Fax No : (02) 697 2397
Email : spring5860@yahoo.com

Quezon (Gumaca Diocese)

Fr. Rinaldi S. Sayson, Chairperson
Tel. No : (042) 317 6430
Fax No : (042) 317 6430
Email : sacgum@yahoo.com

Quezon (Lucena Diocese)

Rev. Msgr. MariaNo Melicia, Jr., Chairperson
Tel. No : (042) 373 1646
Fax : (042) 710 4728
Email : alwinrac28@yahoo.com

Msgr. Melencio Verastigue
Tel. No : : (042) 373-6811
Fax (042) 710-4728
Email : saclucena@yahoo.com

Quezon (Prelature Of Infanta)

Deacon Mario Vanloon, Chairperson
Tel. No : : (042) 535-4213
Fax (042) 535-4213
Email : sac_rin112904@yahoo.com

MIMAROPA

Mindoro Occidental)

Fr. Philip Alex G. Alcantara, Chairperson
Tel. No : (043) 491 5103
Fax No : (043) 491 1369
Email : avsj_ssc@yahoo.com

Ms. Teresa Tacderan, Coordinator
Tel. No : (043) 491 5103
Fax No : (043) 491 1369
Email : avsj_ssc@yahoo.com

Mindoro Oriental

Rev. Fr. Jim Ruga, Chairperson
Tel. No : (043) 288 3893; 441 0953
Fax No : (043) 441 0953

Marinduque

Fr. Allan Malapad, Chairperson
Tel. No : (042) 332 1513
Fax No : (042) 332 1278
Email : allanmalapad@yahoo.com

Romblon

Rev. Fr. Joraype Amadeo Flores, Chairperson
Fax No : (054) 472 8218
Email : frjsacrom2yahoo.com

Mr. Jee Alisasis, Coordinator
Tel. No : (042) 508 3030; 508 3111
Fax No : (042) 567 5007
Email : jeealisasis@yahoo.com

Palawan

Ms. Teresa Cantillo-Briam, Chairperson
TeleFax : (048) 434 9056
Email : genmag_june23@yahoo.com

Waelthy Brian Cantillo Briam, OQC Coordinator
Tel. No : (048) 434 9056
Email : namfrel_ppc@yahoo.com.ph

BICOLREGION

Albay

John Abejuro, Chairperson
TeleFax:(052) 481 2384
Email : info@saclegazpi.org.ph

Joel Calla, Coordinator
TeleFax : (052) 481 2384
Email : info@saclegazpi.org.ph

Camarines Norte

Fr. Norberto Eyule, Chairperson
Tel. No : (054) 721 1510
Fax No : (054) 721-1510
Email : spacfi_daet@yahoo.com

Mr. Dante Almoguera, Coordinator
Tel. No : (054) 571 2031
Email : camsdevinc@yahoo.com

CAMARINES SUR

Fr. Nelson Tria, Chairperson
Tel. No : (054) 473 7570; 473 9550
Fax No : (054) 473 9550

Fr. Joseph Olin, Coordinator
Tel. No : (054) 473 7570
Email : sf_parish@yahoo.com

Catanduanes

Rev. Fr. Laudemer Jose A. Gapaz, Chairperson
Tel. No : (052) 811 1420
Fax No : (052) 811 1204

Masbate

Fr. Leo V. Casas, Chairperson
Tel. No : (056) 333 2202; 333 5952
Fax No : (056) 333 2202
Email : casas_leo@yahoo.com

Dr. Adolfo Almanzor, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (056) 333 2244; 333 6400
Fax No : (056) 333 2244
Email : docara_umpong@yahoo.com

Prelature Of Libmanan

Rev. Fr. Granwell N. Pitapit, Chairperson
TeleFax : (054) 451-2011
Email : pidfi@yahoo.com

Sorsogon

Fr. Rene Mabute, Chairperson
Tel. No : (056) 211 1104
Fax : (056) 211-5368; (056) 421-5160
Email : sacsor@yahoo.com

VISAYAS

Region VI: Western Visayas

Aklan

Virgilio Bautista, Chairperson
Tel. No : (036) 268 5421
Fax No : (036) 268 5145
Email : vionamfrel@yahoo.com.ph

Elizabeth Bautista, OVC Chairperson
Tel. No : (036) 268 5421

Antique

Sally Tejares, Chairperson
Atabay San Jose, Antique 5700
Mobile : 0915 3156135

Roxanne Magdalene Lamprea, OQC Chairperson

Capiz

Fr. Antonio Billones, Chairperson
Tel. No : (036) 527 3033
Fax No : (036) 621 1053

Michael Pedroso, Coordinator
Tel. No : (036) 5273033; (036) 3231811
Fax No : (036) 6211053; 621.0452

Iloilo

Virginia "Inday" Segovia, Chairperson
Tel. No : (033) 3204051; (033) 3204054
Fax No : (033) 3204054
Email : segovia1_nio@ns.nissan.com.ph

Msgr. Meliton Oso, Coordinator
Tel. No : (033) 3202425; (033) 5095114
Fax No : (033) 3202425; (033) 3284133
Email : dodong310@yahoo.com
jaaaci@yahoo.com

Negros Occidental

Bacolod

Fr. Anecito Buenafe, OVC Chairperson
Tel. No : (034) 433 3310
Fax No : (034) 434 4970

San Carlos

Fr. Edwin Laude, Coordinator 1st & 2nd District
Tel. No : (034) 312 5411
Fax No : (034) 312 6248
Email : ed_laude@yahoo.com

Kabankalan

Fr. Rolando Nueva
Tel. No : (034) 471 2894
Fax No : (034) 471 2136
Email : sac_agriculturist@yahoo.com

Guimaras

Ana Eva Villanueva, Chairperson
Mobile : 0926 8632399
0910 5255721
Email : ana_gpefi@yahoo.com

Region VII: Central Visayas

Bohol

Bishop Leonardo Medroso, Coordinator
Tels. : (038) 411-5377 / 411-3487
Fax No : (038) 411 2065

Rev. Fr. Efren A. Bongay, Asst. Coordinator
Tel. No : (038) 5019121;(038) 4113487
Fax No : (038) 4115171;(038) 4112065
Email : sac_tag@yahoo.com
efren_bongay@yahoo.com

Cebu

Maria Luisa "Marilu" Chiongbian, Chairperson
Tel. No : (032) 2552805;(032) 2552743
(032) 4121322
Fax No : (032) 2552743
Email : c-cimpei@skyinet.net

Manuel Granada, OVC Chairperson
Tel. No : (032) 3437877
Fax No : (032) 3437855
Email : msgranada@fastgroup.biz

Negros Oriental

Rev. Fr. Julius S. Heruela, Chairperson
Tels.: (035) 225-4649/(035)422-5275 Fax No : (035) 225 4614
Email : padzjuls@yahoo.com

Siquijor

Marner Samson, Coordinator
Telefax : (035) 480 9875

Harnell Paulin, Asst. Coodinator
TeleFax : (035) 480 9875

Region VIII: Eastern Visayas

Leyte

Cynthia Annie Corpin, Chairperson
Tel. No : (053) 3254065;(053) 3256267
Fax No : (053) 3255103
Email : namfrel_leyte@yahoo.com.ph

Fr. Bartolome Pastor, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (053) 3256267; (053) 3257388
(053) 3256766
Fax No : (053) 3255103
Email : bartpast@mozcom.com;
glic@mozcom.com

Biliran

Fr. Francisco Isabelo A. Colasito
Tel. No : (053) 500.9032; 500.9355
Fax No : (053) 500.9032
Email : frbcol@yahoo.com

Southern Leyte

Fr. Eufemio Gohetia, Chairperson
Tel. No : (053) 381 2040
Fax No : (053) 381 2040;
381.2033 - Chancery
Email : fagohetia@yahoo.com

Fr. Maximo Casinao, Jr., OVC Chairperson
Tel. No : (053) 3812033;(053) 3812040
Fax No : (053) 5709215;(053) 5721691
Email : maasin_chancery@yahoo.com

Maria LeoNora Se-it, Coordinator
Tel. No : (053) 5708360;(053) 3812040
Fax No : (053) 5709216;(053) 3813613

Eastern Samar

Ian Mario Mosquisa, Chairperson
TeleFax : (055) 5609369
Email : ianboni83@yahoo.com

Fr. Edgar Abucejo, Co-chairperson

Samar

Fr. Cesar Aculan, Chairperson
Tel. No : (055) 2091181
Fax No : (055) 2091181;(055) 2093012
Email : ewellbens@yahoo.com

Abarro Renan, OVC Chairperson
TeleFax : (055) 2515446

Northern Samar

Walberto "Toddy" Honey, Chairperson
Mobile : 0916 4158593
Email : saturday_happy15@yahoo.com

Fr. Bong Uno, Co-Chairperson

MINDANAO

REGION IX: Western Mindanao

Zamboanga Del Sur

Elizabeth "Beth" Monteza Chairperson
TeleFax : (062) 2153148
Email : sacpag@1asialink.com
beth_monteza@yahoo.com
sacpag_2006@yahoo.com

Zamboanga City

Fr. William Kreutz, SJ, Chairperson
Tel. No : (062) 9910870 local 1151;
991-0871
Fax No : (062) 9910870
Email : KREUTZWILH@central.adzu edu.ph
president@central.adzu.edu.ph

Mr. Frances Cantillo, Coordinator, SACSI Office
Tel. No : (062) 9910871 local 2224
Fax No : (062) 9910870

Fr. Adriano Ruiz, Jr.
Tel. No : (062) 9810400/9927668
Fax. : (062) 9810400
Email : saczc@yahoo.com

Zamboanga Sibugay

Fr. Joseph Joy Rocamora, Chairperson
Tel. No : (062) 333 2266
Fax No : (062) 333 2574
Email : prel.ipil@yahoo.com

Claudia Abalie, Coordinator
Tel. No : (062) 333 2266
Fax No : (062) 3332574
Email : diding_aballe@yahoo.com
prel.ipil@yahoo.com

Fr. Elmor Alforque
Tel. No : (062) 333 2266
Fax No : (062) 333 2574
Email : sam_prelipil@yahoo.com

Lope C. Dizon
Mobile : 0926 9243740
Fax No : (062) 333 2574
Email : pindizon@yahoo.com
pindizon@hotmail.com

ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

Cecilio Lancian, Chairperson
Mobile : 0926 8196890

Fr. Albert Anthony Baol
Tel No : (065) 2123678
Fax. No : (065) 2123678
Email : sacdip@yahoo.com

Maureen Ruth C. Vilinsan
TeleFax : (065) 212 3678
Email : sacdip@yahoo.com

REGION X: Northern Mindanao

Misamis Oriental & Camiguin

Mr. Ermin Pimentel, Chairperson
Tel. No : (088) 858 3116 local
3206/3215/3210
Mobile : 0917 2039987

Nestor M. Banuag, OQC Chair
Tel. No : (088) 858 3116 local
3206/3215/3210
Email : ness_bansa@yahoo.com

Msgr. Elmer S. Abacahin
Tel. No: (008822) 726304; 722375; 8571357;
723425; 724767
Fax No . (008822) 726304; 8571953
Email : genebeb@yahoo.com

Bukidnon

Fr. Danilo Paciente, Chairperson
Tel. No : (088) 813 4463
Fax No : (088) 813 4463
Email : dsac_malaybalay@yahoo.com.ph

Eutropio S. Jamilo, Coordinator
Fax No : (088) 221 3434
Email : erj_08@yahoo.com.ph

Ronald T. Ramao
Tel. No : (088) 813 1403
Fax No : (088) 221 2292
Email : trishia_rams@yahoo.com

Misamis Occidental

Marivic Faith M. Bation, Social Action Center of Ozamis
TeleFax : (088) 521 1152
Email : sacozam@yahoo.com

Lanao Del Norte

Godofredo Lumbo, Jr., Chairperson
Tel. No : (063) 2213250
Email : manukanNHS@yahoo.com.ph

Dr. Clenio Dumlao, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (063) 2211524;(063) 3516108
Email : cleniodumlao@yahoo.com

Dante D. Dinawanao, OQC-in-charge
Tel. No : (063) 221 4071
Fax No : (063) 221 4071
Email : dcubed@gmail.com

Fr. Albert Mendez
Tel. (063) 2213285; 2355; 1700; 6127
Fax (063) 2216487

REGION XI: Southern Mindanao

DAVAO DEL NORTE

Arlene Rey, Chairperson
Tel. No : (084) 2181402;(084) 4003605
Fax No : (084) 2182878

Fr. Noel Refamonte
Tel. : (084) 2181402; 4006249
Fax. : (084) 2182878
Email : dsam_tagum@yahoo.com

COMPOSTELLA VALLEY

Angelita L. Magallon
Mobile : 09104216089

DAVAO ORIENTAL

Fr. Danilo Fuentes, Chairperson
Tel. : (087) 3883707; 8110494
Fax. : (087) 8114190
Email : sac_mati@yahoo.com

DAVAO DEL SUR

Bishop Guillermo Afable, DD, Chairperson
Tel. No : (082) 5532012;(082) 5535852
Fax No : (082) 5532615
Email : hocdigos@yahoo.com

Arnold Quisumbing, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (082) 5532933
Fax No : (082) 5533943
Email : digos@devbankphil.com.ph

Fr. Cornelio Toraja
Tel. : (082) 5532603
Fax. : (082) 5535852
Email : hoc_digos@yahoo.com

DAVAO CITY

Eduardo Robillo, Chairman
Mobile : 0918 9205123
Email : namfrel_davao@yahoo.com
momong65@yahoo.com

Ed Nuque, Co-Chairman
Mobile : 0920 9601026
Email : namfrel_davao@yahoo.com

Carlito Santos, Coordinator
Mobile : 0919-5504669

Jeffrey Kiroyan, Coordinator
Mobile : 0927-7588966

Mark Lester Guevarra, Coordinator
Mobile : 0927-7162441

REGION XII: Central Mindanao

SOUTH COTABATO & SARANGGANI

Bishop Dinualdo Gutierrez, DD, Chairperson
Tel. No : (083) 2282526
Fax No : (083) 2282526
Email : dimarbel@mozcom.com

Fr. Romeo Catedral
Tel. : (083) 228 2526 / 3793 / 3155
Fax. : (083) 228 5142
Email : dimarbel@philwebinc.com
sacmarbel@yahoo.com

NORTH COTABATO

Fr. Lamberto Pragados, Chairperson
Tel. No : (064) 2881774
Fax No : (064) 2881776
Email : rgvallescdd@yahoo.com.ph

Fr. Hipolito Paracha
Mobile : 0926 506 9622

SULTAN KUDARAT

Fr. Diosdado Esguerra, Chairperson
Tel. No : (064) 200 3297 / 200 4209
Fax No : (064) 200 3162

Lydia del Corro, Co-Chairperson
Tel. No : (064) 2003787
Mobile : (0920) 5935729/ (0920) 4175775

SURIGAO DEL NORTE

Fr. Ernesto Virgen, Chairperson
Mobile : (0918) 9277701

Fr. Almaria Ramada, Jr, DCS
Tel. No : (086) 8261538 ; 826.1316
Fax No : (086) 8261316
Email : frlolong@yahoo.com

SURIGAO DEL SUR

Sr. Lydia LascaNo, ICM
Tel. No : (086) 211 3044 / 4102
Fax No : (086) 221 4102
Email : srlydiaicm@yahoo.com

Fr. Glenn Infiesto
Tel. No : (086) 853 5107
Fax No : (086) 853 5107
Email : glenn infiesto@yahoo.com

AGUSAN DEL NORTE & AGUSAN DEL SUR

Bishop Juan De Dios Pueblos, D.D., Chairperson
Tel. No : (085) 3422815
Fax. : (085) 3422815
Email : sac_jpbutuan@yahoo.com

Fr. Leo Madalo
Tel. No : (085) 3422815 / 3425308
Fax No : (085) 3422815;(085) 8159251
Email : sac jpbutuan@yahoo.com
Fr. Tony Mobile : 0919 391 3582

Fr. Ruby Tagaro
Mobile : 0926 882 6212

Mr. Ronelio Barsatan, Coordinator
Tel. No : (085) 342 2815 / 3423747 /
Fax No : (085) 342 28 15 / 815 9251
Email : sac_jpbutuan@yahoo.com

REGION XIV: AutoNomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

Fr. Eliseo Mercado, Jr., Regional Convenor for ARMM
Email : jun.mercado@gmail.com
junmeromi@yahoo.com

BASILAN

Sr. Ruth Diaz, Chairperson
Mobile : 09203368958

Mr. Jayson Sabdilon, Coordinator
Mobile : 0915-9982676

COTABATO CITY

Dra. Teresita M. Mansilla, Chairperson
Tel. No : (064) 4212698 local 353
Fax No : (064) 4212071; 421-4312

MAGUINDANAO

Fr. Eduardo Tanudtanud, OMI, Chairperson
Tel. No : (064) 4212698 local 353
Fax No : (064) 4212071; 421-4312

Joseph Fernandez, Coordinator
Tel. No : (064) 4212698 local 353
Fax No : (064) 4212071; 421-4312
Email : jpf_03@yahoo.com

Fr. David Procalla

SHARRIF KABUNGSUAN

Atty. Benedicto R. Bacani
Tel. No : (064) 4212698 local 353
Fax No : (064) 4212071; 421-4312

Shiela G. Algabre, Coordinator
Tel. No : (064) 4212698 local 353
Fax No : (064) 4212071; 421-4312

Rex O. Millano
Tel. No : (064) 421 3222 / 421 2918
Fax No : (064) 421 1446
Email : sac_jpcot@yahoo.com

Simeon V. Samson, Jr.
Tel. No : (064) 4213222 / 4212918
Fax No : (064) 421-1446
Email : simsamjr@yahoo.com

LANAO DEL SUR

Mr. Abdullah Lacs Dalidig, Chairperson
Mobile : 0918 2515119

Fr. Jovit Mainao, Co-chairperson
Mobile : 0906 4669416

SULU

Darren Datiles, Chairperson
Mobile : (0927) 5189023
Email : daru_1954@yahoo.com

Fr. Jose Ante, OMI
Tel. No : (047) 4422871 loc 2125
Fax. No : (085) 3418911

TAWI-TAWI

Israel Jadjuli, Chairperson
TeleFax : (068) 2681180

Termizie Masahud, Co-Chairperson
Fax No : (068) 2681043
Mobile : (0918) 9185211
Email : termiziegm@yahoo.com

Pinoy Bantay Bayan

Bantay Eleksyon '07

Makati Business Club

LENTE
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1 Million Volunteers for Clean Elections

PPCRV

Simbahang Lingkod ng Bayan

One Voice

Integrated Bar of the Philippines

PERA'T PULITIKA

102 dead so far; PNP sees rise in poll violence

From page A1

units in Abra and Region 4-A have been deployed to help the police.

The PNP also faces a shortage of resources. It had asked the Comelec for P644 million to fund the security operations. But so far, only P300 million has been guaranteed, and this will have to be shared with military units.

Partisan armed groups

Despite the lack of funds and resources, the PNP said it was doing its best to secure the elections. As early as December, the PNP formed Task Force HOPE (Honest, Orderly, Peaceful Elections).

Already, Calderon has ordered round-the-clock checkpoints seven days a week in every municipality to check the proliferation of loose firearms. The PNP is implementing a Comelec gun ban.

The PNP also ordered its provincial and regional commanders to initiate the signing of peace covenants among rival candidates in their areas.

It also threatened to sack commanders who fail to prevent violent incidents in their areas. The PNP has reshuffled provincial commanders to prevent accusations of partisanship, notably in Batangas, Rizal, Laguna and Cavite.

Calderon also launched a campaign against "partisan armed groups," otherwise known as PAGs or private armies of politicians. "We have been very effective, although that statement might not seem credible at this time," he said.

The PNP said it had monitored 39 active armed groups and it had disbanded three of them.

'Areas of concern'

Calderon revealed "areas of concern" to the PNP and the Comelec—Palawan, Abra, Nueva Ecija, Cagayan, Masbate, Western Samar, Lanao del Sur, Sulu and Basilan.

Abra, Nueva Ecija and San Carlos City in Pangasinan are now under the control of the Comelec.

Chief Supt. Eugene Martin, deputy for operations of the Cordillera Administrative Region, should know a thing or two about going after PAGs.

He was previously head of Task Force Abra which is responsible for keeping the shaky peace in a province notorious for violence during elections caused primarily by armed goons. Before the attack on supporters of Lagayan Mayor Cecille Luna that led to the deaths of six supporters last Friday, Martin was dispatched to the area.

"Members of these groups keep on hiding from police. But we have their names. If they make any appearance in the streets, they would be arrested. They are good at hiding," Martin told the INQUIRER.

NPA goons

Chief Supt. Ricardo Padilla, chief of the Region 5 police, agreed. Masbate, another province known for election violence, is under Padilla's command.

"These people are hidden from view. They become known to us only when we encounter them. Turns out, they come from different places outside of Masbate. It's their guns that stay in the province," Padilla told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Padilla said communist guerrillas of the New People's Army had also been hired as politicians' goons "in exchange for a fee." This is where the collection of "permit to win" fees come in, said Padilla. For a fee, members of the NPA can assure the victory of a politician through the use of violence, intimidation and coercion.

Control cops, guns

Ramon Casiple of the Institute for Political and Electoral Reform said more had to be done by police to reduce violence. "Police can still do something if they are not partisan and if they impose a real total gun ban." Casiple noted that the Comelec had issued 23,000 exemptions to the gun ban, mostly to politicians.

He said instead of carrying guns, politicians should be given just police bodyguards. "But there is no guarantee. How are we sure some personnel are not partisan?"

Joel Rocamora of the Institute of Popular Democracy (IPD) cited the case of the shootout in Jaen, Nueva Ecija. Two people were killed when policemen on the sides of Rep. Rodolfo Antonino and Jaen Mayor Antonio Esquivel opened fire at each other.

"Police bodyguards should be removed. Candidates shouldn't be protected at the government's expense," Rocamora said.

Garcia agreed, saying he would recommend no candidate be given police bodyguards. According to Garcia, around 800 policemen have been assigned to guard candidates.

But Calderon said taking out police bodyguards would mean less control over the candidates. "They would hire partisan armed groups. The more the situation will be scarier."

The PNP's record on the recovery of loose firearms is also dismal. For the election period, only around 2,000 firearms have been recovered out of the estimated 100,000.

Calderon argued that a total gun ban would be an "ideal" situation. "I would go for that. But you are allowing others to carry firearms."

Political clans

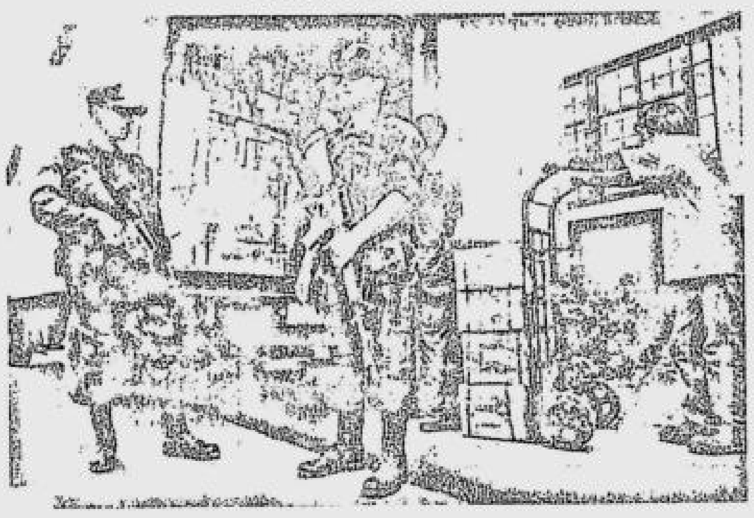
Rocamora said violence in elections was a result of the high stakes involved, especially at the local level. He said the intensity of the role played by political clans will dictate the body count.

"Local politics is dominated by political clans and the economic future of the clans are dependent on elections. When local politics becomes even more competitive between the clans, the violence intensifies," Rocamora said. "It becomes a question of honor."

Rocamora said the present political culture hindered efforts to keep electoral violence down. "The capacity of government to limit the violence is compromised by the perception that military and police are involved in political violence. The existence of extrajudicial killings generates an atmosphere of impunity. Candidates think if the government does this to the Left, then they can do it too to win the elections."

Director Garcia hopes candidates will realize their own political maturity.

"We must work for a new political culture of fair play, democracy and respect for divergent views. This is the main problem, it's the way we look at elections. Guns and goons should not be part of our political culture. This is the cause of the problem."



OFFICIAL BALLOTS IN ILOILO CITY: Policemen secure 239 bundles of official ballots, 40 election returns and 28 boxes of indelible ink as soon as the election materials arrive on Thursday. They are now stored at the Iloilo Sports Complex.

ARNOLD ALMACEN/INQUIRER VISAYAS

AN APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT AND COMELEC

We, your Cabalens in the Province of Pampanga, would like to make an earnest appeal to your Excellency, Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and to the Honorable Commissioners of the COMELEC to ensure that the May 14, 2007 elections in our beloved home province will be THE BENCHMARK OF CLEAN, CREDIBLE, FAIR, HONEST AND PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN THE COUNTRY.

We are constrained to make this appeal because of the widespread apprehension in our province that the true will of the electorate would be subverted by massive vote buying, cheating and the use of guns and goons. This early, we have received reports that substantial amounts of money are being disbursed or are about to be disbursed to influence the results of the forthcoming elections.

We believe that in the face of the national controversy which continues to hound the 2004 Presidential elections, you owe it to us and to the Filipino people to exert all legal means within your power and influence to realize your dream of determining our leaders in an atmosphere of freedom, amity and truth. If it can happen in Pampanga, then it can also happen in the farthest reaches of our benighted nation.

We shall put our trust in you, Madame President and esteemed Commissioners. Please, DO NOT FAIL US.

In this regard, we fully support the view of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of the Philippines that "as a nation, we cannot afford yet another controversial electoral exercise."

We also urge our fellow Kapampangans to exercise extraordinary vigilance during the elections so that the results may truly reflect the sovereign will of the people.

Through our united efforts, and with the hope, strength and courage that can only come from the Holy Spirit, LET US NOT BE AFRAID.

Signed this 14th day of April 2007.

(Sgd.) REV. EDWIN M. PANOILINAN
UM Good Seed Development
Foundation, Inc.

(Sgd.) REV. AUGUSTO S. SUPAK
Lubao United Methodist Church

(Sgd.) REV. LESLEY E. DANAN
Angeles City

(Sgd.) REV. RESTY L. JINGCO
Gethsemane United Methodist
Church

(Sgd.) TRINIDAD P. GONZALES
Kiwanis Club of Angeles City

(Sgd.) ELY DANTE D. SOLANE
President Reporters
and Columnists
Association of Pampanga

(Sgd.) REV. DEOGRACIAS A. CRUZ
District Superintendent
United Methodist Church

(Sgd.) ATTY. NOEL C. QUIOC

(Sgd.) ATTY. VIVIAN T. DABU

(Sgd.) ATTY. MARIA ELISSA F. VELEZ

(Sgd.) MARIANO SANTIAGO

(Sgd.) ROBERT ALEXANDER H. MALIG

(Sgd.) BRO. CELERINO V. PAMINTUAN

(Sgd.) CONRADO GARCIA

(Sgd.) JUS P FABIAN

(Sgd.) JORGE P. GUMBA
Sto. Nino, CSFP

(Sgd.) RUDY M. MALLARI

(Sgd.) DANIE PEREZ
Inter-Ecozone Health Care

(Sgd.) REV. ELIAS S. TALAVESA
Church of the New Covenant

(Sgd.) REV. SONNY M. CASTRO, JR.
Bitas & Gatiawin, U.M.S

(Sgd.) REV. ROY REGALA
ADM. PTR. I UMC

(Sgd.) REV. JOCELYN E. LAGMAN
Christ the King, UMC
Candaba, Pampanga

(Sgd.) REV. NENITA S. YUTUC
Panguio, Mexico, UMC

(Sgd.) PTRA. BERLITA R. CASTRO
Good Shepherd UMC
Candating Arayat

(Sgd.) RUBEN TOBIAS LUIS
Pampanga Methodist Church

(Sgd.) HERMINIO TANGLAC
Pamp. Mango Growers Ass.

(Sgd.) BENJAMIN C. TIMZON
Kalayaan Village, SF., P).

(Sgd.) ELIZABETH G. TUAZON
Kalayaan Village, SFP

(Sgd.) EVELYN S. CANCIO
Kalayaan Village, SFP

(Sgd.) MYRNA BITUIN
PHIL EXPORT Reg. III

(Sgd.) MA. MIGUELA T. SANTIAGO
Soroptimist, LOC

(Sgd.) JOSEPH D. MANLUTAC
Friday Club

(Sgd.) LEANDRO L. SUING
San Nicholas # 2, Magalang, Pamp.

(Sgd.) LILIBETH C. YADUT, M.D.
Friday Club

(Sgd.) OLIVE Y. AMORES
Inter-Ecozone Healthcare

(Sgd.) LETICIA YAP, M.D.
San Fernando, Pampanga

(Sgd.) SR. CELINE SAPLALA, OSB
Benedictine Sisters
St. Scholastica Academy, Sn. Fdo.

(Sgd.) DR. EDUARDO C. YABCA
Pampanga Doctors

(Sgd.) PATRICK GUANZON
Artista Rita Foundation

(Sgd.) RENATO S. TAYAO, JR.
Advocacy for the Development
of Central Luzon

(Sgd.) REYNALDO P. RIVERA
Couples for Christ, Magalang

(Sgd.) MAR MARIANO
DAU Pampanga
Couples for Christ Pampanga

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(Sgd.) REV. ERNEST JIMENES
JEMAL Jesus Ministers
Association of Lubao

(Sgd.) PASTOR GAZ SUPAN
Pol, Com Jemal

(Sgd.) JAY SALANSANG
Workers Fellowship, WRD

(Sgd.) ATTY. RICARDO M. SAGMIT

(Sgd.) ATTY. VICENTE A. MACALINO
President, Pampanga Bar
Association (PAMBARASO)

(Sgd.) ATTY. RAENAN MALIG

(Sgd.) JOEL E. MENDEZ
BANAT, Party List

(Sgd.) ATTY. CHRISTOPHER REJON TAN
Pulong Marupul, Angeles City

(Sgd.) ATTY. ANNA VITANGCUL
Maligaya Village, Dolores, SFP

(Sgd.) NORBERTO Q. CUNANAN, M.D.
APPOA

(Sgd.) ROLANDO L. CANNEL
PCSCLC

(Sgd.) MA. CECILIA C. CARIVEL
PPS - CL

(Sgd.) DR. NOEL EVANGELISTA, FPCS
Mother Teresa of Calcutta Medical Center

(Sgd.) ELENA G. HERNANDEZ, ED. D.
San Fernando, Pampanga

(Sgd.) LUCY MENDOZA
San Fernando, Pampanga

(Sgd.) NOEL LACSAMANA
IEC

(Sgd.) FISTON RAMA

(Sgd.) MARNI CASTRO
Save San Fdo. Foundation

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Director Kapatad, Head

(Sgd.) ANDY ALVIZ
Arti Sta. Rita

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO T. IGNACIO
Rotary Club - TPKI

(Sgd.) DR. ELEANOR C. MANGAHAS
Inocencio Magtoto Memorial Foundation

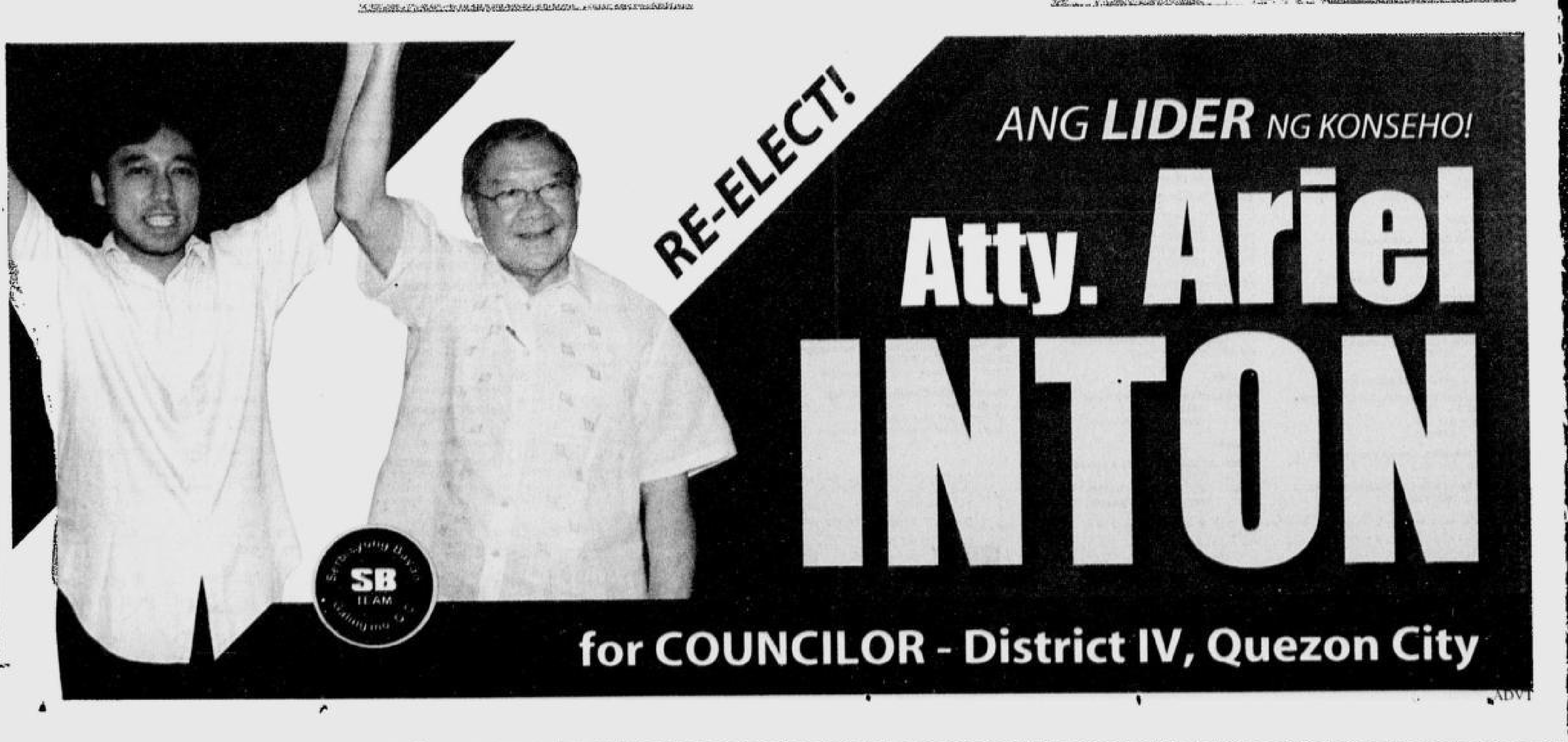
(Sgd.) RENATO G. ROMERO
Advocacy for the Development of
Central Luzon

(Sgd.) ATTY. HERMINIO Z. CANLAS
Cabetican, Bacolor, Pampanga

(Sgd.) ATTY. NEPOMUCENO Z. CAYLAS

(Sgd.) ATTY. ANANIAS L. CANLAS, JR.
Bacolor, Pampanga

ADVT



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FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2007
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
A21

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8071
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Across the NATION
Website: www.inquirer.net/regions
Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

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Palace-brokered Isabela deal collapses

ALBANO

PADACA

By Villamor Visaya Jr., *Inquirer Northern Luzon*

ILAGAN, ISABELA—THE TWO MOST FORMIDABLE political clans in the province broke a 30-year-old alliance, that was brokered by Malacañang, when they declared support for separate gubernatorial candidates.

Reelectionist Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano III and his brother, Tonypet Albano, Team Unity deputy spokesperson, endorsed reelectionist Gov. María Gracia Cielo Padaca after the Dy family fielded former Gov. Benjamin Dy instead of their long-time ally, former Gov. Faustino Dy Jr.

The crack in the Albano-Dy alliance appeared after the Dy family, minutes before the deadline for the filing of candidacy for local positions on March 29, fielded Benjamin instead of Faustino Jr.

Tonypet Albano was being groomed by the family and local political leaders to run for governor but he gave way to the candidacy of Faustino Jr., whom Padaca beat in the 2004 elections, to heed an invitation by President Macapagal-Arroyo to be deputy TU spokesperson.

Benjamin Dy, who served as governor from 1992 to 2001, shrugged off the withdrawal of support of the Albanos, saying voters would decide the elections.

"I am going directly to the people. I feel that they are longing for our return. Let the May 14 elections be the judge if I am worthy [to serve the province] or not," he told the INQUIRER.

He said he would not woo the Albanos or the nine of 11 town mayors in the first district who had shifted loyalty to Padaca. The mayors reportedly made the move through the prodding of Rep. Edwin Uy, a known rival of the Dys.

"I will not talk and persuade them to support me. It is up to the people," Dy said.

Former Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III, Lakas-CMD regional chair, said he also endorsed Padaca instead of Benjamin Dy. Bello said Faustino Jr. was his choice for governor.

7 traders' groups ask GMA: Stop Pampanga fraud

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—LEADERS OF seven business groups in Pampanga and the nearby Clark Freeport on Wednesday appealed to President Macapagal-Arroyo to intervene in the province's elections by helping ensure these are free of fraud.

The appeal came in a form of a letter sent to Malacañang also on Wednesday. It was signed by Renato Romero and Renato Tayag Jr., chair and co-chair, respectively, of the Advocacy for the Development of Central Luzon; Myra Rivera, president of the Metro Angeles Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Francisco Villanueva, president of the Clark Investors and Locators Association; Mike Go and Freddie So, of the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the City of San Fernando and Angeles City; Jesus Yap, president of the Central Luzon Distributors Organization; and Mario Lazatin, president of the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Association in Angeles City.

"We, business people in your home province of Pampanga, are deeply alarmed by the incidents that have taken place here since April 23," the leaders told Ms Arroyo whose father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal, hailed from Lubao town.

Citing information received from several sources, they reported of incidents where people had been "herded to cockpits, public gyms and school grounds and given money afterwards."

They also reported that public school teachers, who were supposed to chair the boards of election inspectors, had been "gathered for meetings, promised mobile phones with cameras and given cash."

"These happened with increasing regularity in recent days and these incidents have become very persistent to be ignored at this time," they said.

They said they have "reasons to be apprehensive because these moves indicate these are going to lead to massive vote-buying and cheating on or days close to the May 14 elections."

The business leaders did not identify the people behind the alleged election irregularities.

Reelectionist Gov. Mark Lapid and another gubernatorial candidate, Fr. Eddie Panlilio, had traced those to their rival, Board Member Lilia Pineda, wife of suspected jueteng lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda.

Bong Pineda was reported to have supported Ms Arroyo's campaign since she was a senator. The President, however, had denied this.

In the controversial 2004 elections, the defunct Newsbreak magazine reported Pineda to be a member of a group allegedly behind the break-in at the Batasang Pambansa in a bid to put in "corrected" election returns. This was after presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. accused Ms Arroyo of massive fraud.

Pineda said he had no role in any political campaign.

The business leaders asked Ms Arroyo to "intervene at this juncture in Pampanga history."

"With your immense authority, please be the hero to us, your *kabalen* (province mates). Please take measures to ensure that only democratic elections take place in our beloved Pampanga," they said. *Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*

'... public school teachers had been gathered...'

VOTE!
PARTYLIST
BTM
BAGONG TAO MOVEMENT
Kabuhayan para sa kabataan.
Donated by friends of BTM, Catbalogan, Samar

Storm of protest gathers over harassment of Robredo

NAGA CITY—INDIGNANT AT THE COMMISSION on Elections' order to justify his continued stay in office, supporters of Mayor Jesse Robredo, who is on his fifth bid as undefeated mayor of this city, gathered in protest at Plaza Quezon here on Tuesday night.

People from the academe and the Church, senior citizens and retirees, government employees, urban poor and the private sector joined the three-hour rally to highlight the disgust of Robredo's supporters on what they believed as "an act of political harassment and of cheating the electorate" by the administration.

Robredo's challenger, Jojo Villafuerte of the Kabalikat ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Kampi), filed the disqualification case in 2004 on the issue of the mayor's citizenship.

The case was then ignored because the majority of the commissioners of the Commission on Elections en banc was in his favor, Robredo said.

On May 3, the Comelec's First Division issued a "quo warranto" order to Robredo. His lawyers have asked for a reconsideration of the order.

Fr. Joel E. Tabora, Ateneo de Naga University president, assailed the order as "a political maneuver to neutralize a popular and credible opposition who cannot be defeated via election."

It is a "glaringly high-handed machination," Tabora said in a statement read by Rebecca Torres, an Ateneo faculty member, during the rally.

"The overwhelming support of the people of Naga City to Mayor Jesse Robredo—manifested not only in the results of the (four) consecutive elections but in the policies, programs and projects initiated by his administration—is a clear manifestation of his being a true Filipino citizen."

Robredo, 48, is a Filipino as manifested in his passport, driver's license, birth certificate and income tax returns, he said. The mayor has a Chinese father and a Filipino mother.

Senatorial candidate Sonia Roco of Aksyon Demokratiko joined the rally, skipping her sortie in Southern Tagalog.

She said her presence added to the voice against the alleged practice of the Arroyo administration of consistently subverting and violating the rule of law to punish its political nemesis.

Robredo told the crowd that they should not be cowed from continuing the fight for righteousness in the city. *Juan Escandor Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Bet facing graft says he retired, not fired

STA. MARIA, BULACAN—FORMER Public Works Undersecretary Salvador Pleyto said yesterday that he was not dismissed from office, but opted to retire early amid a graft case and to prepare for his entry into politics.

He said reports saying he was dismissed were black propaganda.

Pleyto, a candidate of Kampi, is challenging the reelection bid of Bulacan Rep. Reylina Nicolas, a candidate of the Lakas-CMD, in the fourth district.

He said he retired just last January, two months ahead of schedule.

Insisting that he was innocent of the graft case, he said former Public Works Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. was host of a testimonial dinner for his retirement.

"[We wanted to] clarify the information that was aimed at tarnishing my reputation. That is black propaganda, that is maligning one's name," he said.

Pleyto said Court of Appeals Justice Ruben Reyes, in a decision on Dec. 26 last year, nullified the decision of the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission that found him guilty of administrative charges stemming from graft complaints against him.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach outgoing Gov. Josefina de la Cruz, one of the leaders of Kampi in Bulacan, for her reaction to Pleyto's candidacy.

De la Cruz, a former member of Lakas-CMD, earlier led 21 Bulacan mayors and other officials in switching to Kampi.

Board Member Pacifico Aniag said Pleyto was already a Kampi member when he and other local officials joined the party.

Aniag said Pleyto had told his party mates that he had documents to prove his innocence.

Former Bulacan Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan, the gubernatorial candidate of Lakas-CMD, said he was not familiar with the cases filed against Pleyto but he received information that these were on appeal. *Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MAYOR FRED LIM (1992 to 1998)

EDUCATION
1. Constructed the City College of Manila giving free college education to deserving students, the first of its kind in the country.
2. Initiated the "no contribution" policy in whatever form on all levels of public schools.
3. Gave school bags and other related supplies to students.
4. Public school teachers were given incentive pay.
5. No school premises were sold. Instead, the school site of Plaridel Elem. School and A. Lacson Elem. School were bought.
6. Founded the Antonio J. Villegas Vocational School at Bangkusay, Tondo.
7. 163 school buildings and 8 libraries were constructed, repaired or improved.
8. Bought 40 computer sets and 500 Panasonic TV for public schools so as to meet the modern trend.

HEALTH
1. Constructed or renovated the Ospital ng Maynila, Ospital ng Sampaloc, Gat Andres Bonifacio Hospital, and Tondo General Hospital.
2. Free medicine for indigent patients at all public hospitals.
3. Repaired and improved all health centers and lying-in clinics.
4. "Homeward Haven" was created at Ospital ng Maynila for AIDS patients.
5. Rehabilitation center for drug dependents was put up.
7. Public markets were maintained to be clean and free from foul odor at all times.
8. Improved and rehabilitated the North Cemetery.
9. Extended free funeral and interment services.
10. Crematoriums were extended for free.

PEACE AND ORDER
1. Initiated the shame campaign against drug pushers which practically made Manila drug free then.
2. Closed massage clinics, night clubs, and bars involved in prostitution, forcing these to move out of Manila.
3. Statistics on criminal cases dramatically dropped due to intensified police drive.
4. Deserving policemen were given incentive pay.
5. Gave 60 units of Toyota cars to Mobile Section of Manila Police.
6. Erring and abusive policemen were reprimanded and penalized by the PLEB.
7. Creation of Junior Police Force to assist the policemen in maintaining peace and order.
8. The Manila Traffic and Parking Bureau was formed to decongest traffic.
9. Closure of illegal money changers to bring down the cost of the US dollar.

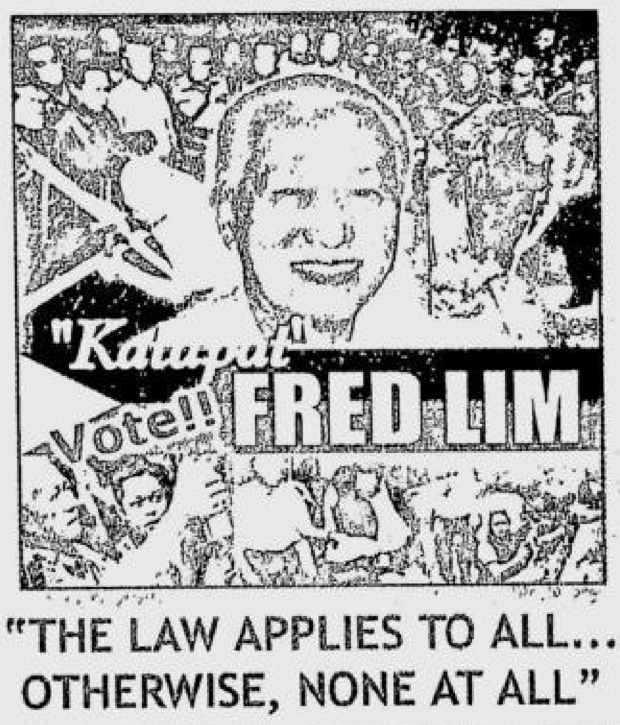
FINANCE
1. No loan was incurred except for the loan contracted for the purchase of the lot and PNB building used by the City College of Manila.
2. Taxes/fees were never increased during his six year term.
3. Updated payment of water bill, electric charges, and GSIS premium to enable employees to obtain loan and other benefits.
4. Salaries of city employees were increased on several occasions.
5. Granted incentive pay to city employees.
6. All Barangays were allocated on a quarterly basis their corresponding share from real estate taxes including IRA from the national government.
7. The City Finance was managed on a balanced budget system.

CLEAN AND GREEN
1. 90,000 trees were planted in the City of Manila
2. Garbage collection on a daily basis were efficiently implemented.
3. Cost of garbage collection was significantly reduced.
4. Modern dump trucks, pay loaders, backhoes, vac-alls and other equipment were purchased.
5. Drainages were cleaned and improved regularly.

INFRASTRUCTURE
1. Constructed the Bonifacio Shrine, Forest Park, Museo Ng Maynila, Museong Pambata, Liwasang Bonifacio Multi-colored fountain, Carriedo Fountain, etc.
2. Public markets and talipapas were repaired and renovated.
3. Concreting of almost 70% of both main thoroughfares and secondary roads in Manila.
4. Various offices within the Manila City Hall were repaired and renovated.
5. To save on cost, most projects were undertaken by the City Engineering.

OTHER SERVICES
1. Offered livelihood programs and extended loans.
2. Free legal services to indigent litigants.
3. Monthly rental of Harrison Plaza was increased from P48,000 to P480,000.
4. Prices of commodities were closely monitored to avoid overpricing.
5. More than 4,000 certificates of award were granted to landless Manileños.
6. Public faucets were set up in 33 barangays.
7. Street lights were placed in 65 barangays.
8. The first local gov't. official to implement the benefits under the Senior Citizens Act.

Sama-sama nating labanan ang krimen,
kahirapan at katiwalian tungo sa
maunlad at mapayapang Manila



"THE LAW APPLIES TO ALL...
OTHERWISE, NONE AT ALL"

ITU International Telecommunication Union

In celebration of the

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DAY

May 17, 2007

SAGISAG NG PANGULO

we join the Arroyo Administration through the
Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC)
the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT)
and the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC),
by providing **FREE CALLS** today Friday, May 11, 2007,
from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Baywalk, Roxas Blvd., Malate, Manila.

Globe SMART sun CELLULAR

Philippine Chamber of Telecommunications Operators (PCTO)

ROUNDUP

Cops seize unlicensed guns

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Police arrested a suspected gunrunner and his henchman after they swooped down on the suspect's house and seized a cache of unlicensed firearms and ammunition in Sta. Cruz, Laguna on Wednesday afternoon, police said Thursday. Senior Supt. Prudencio Bañas, acting Laguna police director, identified the arrested men as Armando Torres and his aide Loreto Abaya. Armed with a search warrant, Bañas said the Sta. Cruz municipal police station raided the house of Torres in Sitio Maunawain, Barangay Duhat at around 3 p.m. He said the police received information that the suspect was a supplier of unlicensed firearms in the fourth district of the province. Seized from the suspect's house were .30-cal. Carbine, a .22-cal. Browning rifle, three .22-cal. rifles, one .22-cal. magnum revolver, two .38-cal. revolver, two homemade shotguns and assorted ammunition for different firearms. Bañas said police have filed illegal possession of firearms charges against the suspects

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

600 policemen mobilized

TACLOBAN CITY—More than 600 policemen were deployed to the different provinces of Eastern Visayas as part of a contingency plan to achieve peaceful and orderly elections this Monday. The policemen are from the regional headquarters and are mostly rookies, according to Supt. Eliseo de la Paz, police regional director. The policemen left the regional headquarters in Camp Ruperto Kangleon in Palo yesterday for their respective assignments. Of the six provinces in the region, only Biliran was not given an augmentation force because it has not been identified as an election hot spot and its current police strength was enough, De la Paz said. The police deployment covers the provinces of Leyte, Southern Leyte, Samar, Eastern Samar and Northern Samar. These provinces were identified by the PNP and the regional Comelec as election flash points. Lawyer Jose Nick Mendros, Comelec assistant regional director, said the Comelec welcomed the deployment of the augmentation force. "But we are still calling on our people to be always vigilant during this time," Mendros said.

Joey A. Gabieta, Inquirer Visayas

Seeking a third term

CERVANTES

ANTONIO Flores Cervantes is running for a third term as councilor of Tarlac City. Among his accomplishments through various laws are the promotion of Tarlac City through the native dance La Jota Tarlaquena, the formation of a city solid waste management board, standardization and classification of tourism-related establishments, establishment and operation of an ecological recycling and composting center, enhanced college scholarship program for deserving Tarlaquenos and creation of permanent positions for his constituents at the city government of Tarlac. A scion of the respected Flores-Cervantes family in Tarlac, Cervantes owns and manages the Cervantes Press and Bookstore in Concepcion and Capas.

Aklan bracing for change

CHANGES in Aklan are looming with the candidacy of Vicky Ramos, a businesswoman who appears to be leading in the campaign for the province's governorship. Ramos is the daughter of Godofredo Ramos, the former governor of the province after whom the province's airport, located in Caticlan, was named. In a statement from the United Opposition, which is supporting the candidacy of Ramos, supporters of Ramos were quoted as saying that the Ramos family, who have kept Aklan as their home base all their lives, decided to field Vicky out of dismay in the lack of infrastructure and investor confidence in the province. The UNO, in its statement, said Ramos promises to bring her expertise in business into running the provincial government and bringing good governance in Aklan. Surveys in schools in Aklan showed Ramos to be giving the incumbent, Carlito Marquez, a good fight who may yet pull off a surprise win. In mock elections held at the Aklan State Colleges and the Garcia Colleges, two of the leading schools in the province, Ramos emerged to be a winner among young voters who, the UNO statement said, are also demanding change in Aklan.

2 soldiers killed in ambush

BACOLOD CITY—Two soldiers were killed and two others were injured when they were ambushed by about 30 New People's Army guerrillas in Barangay Pinapugasan, Escalante City, 102 km north of here, at 6:15 a.m. yesterday. Brig. Gen. Gregorio Fajardo, 303rd Infantry Brigade commander, said he was withholding the names of the victims as they have yet to inform their families. The four Army soldiers, of the 33rd Reconnaissance Company under the Army's Task Force North, were in a utility vehicle traveling from their mobile base in Barangay Libertad, Escalante, when they were ambushed. Fajardo said the four soldiers were going to fetch water. Two minors—12-year-old Rey Pacumberto, son of SSgt. Reynaldo Pacumberto, and Narciso Librando, 16—who were also on board the vehicle, suffered minor injuries, Fajardo said.

Carla P. Gomez, Inquirer Visayas

ROW delays in SCTEX reach GMA level, to be taken up in Cabinet

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and top government officials are expected to know in the next Cabinet meeting the final outcome of talks seeking to settle issues on right-of-way (ROW) that have delayed the government flagship project Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX).

Secretary Edgardo Pamintuan, chief of the Luzon Urban Beltway region and the Subic-Clark Alliance Development Council, said he will report the results after the two Japanese contractors and the project's foreign consultants have "reconciled their concerns and come to an agreement as to the request for an extension of deadlines."

In their notices, the Hazama-Taisei-Nippon Steel (HTN) Joint Venture and the Kajima Corp., Obayashi Corp., JFE Engineering Corp. and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. (KOJM) Joint Venture reported incurring at least 2,408 days of delay on the 50-km Bataan-Pampanga portion. HTN reported 457 days of slowdown on the 44-km Pampanga-Tarlac section.

Both cited ROW problems as a major cause of the setback. The ROW, or the sites on which the road will be built, is the BCDA's counterpart to the P21-billion road funded on a loan from the Japanese government.

KOJM and HTN proceeded to follow up on their claim for time extension.

Pamintuan said the consulting firms Pacific Consultants International, Katahira and Engineers International and Nippon Koei Co. Ltd. should come out with their decision on whether to grant the deadline extension a week after their May 7 meeting.

It was the last of two meetings facilitated by Pamintuan and Secretary Cerge Remonde, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, to help settle the issue.

"I will report the final outcome to the next Cabinet meeting," Pamintuan told the INQUIRER.

Another government source present in the May 7 meeting said the matters tackled there showed "both parties were at fault."

The source was alarmed by the "great length of time" it took for the BCDA and other agencies to approve several requests by KOJM and HTN.

"Apparently, there was so much red tape. It looked like the order of President Macapagal-Arroyo to finish this major government project on time fell on deaf ears," said the source, who did not want to be named for lack of authority from his superiors to speak on the issue. *Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*

Bets share surnames, use nicknames instead

By Anselmo Roque
Inquirer Central Luzon

CABANATUAN CITY—ALL THREE CANDIdates for city vice mayor are using their nicknames to court votes in the elections as they share a common surname: Garcia.

Marius Garcia, a candidate of the Lakas-CMD, is using the nickname "Jolly," Ramon Garcia of Kampi-Balane, is using "Suka" (vinegar), while Reynaldo Garcia of the opposition PDP-Laban is using the nickname "Col. Rey."

Marius and Ramon are first cousins, while Reynaldo is their distant relative.

According to a Commission on Elections rule, votes cast for the surname "Garcia" will not be credited to any of the three candidates.

Because of this dilemma, the candidates have been urging voters to write their nicknames in the ballots or write the full name of the candidate of their choice.

Running for mayor is outgoing Nueva Ecija Gov. Tomas Joson III.

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Institutionalize School Feeding Programs to address malnutrition
Establish a Health Data Center
Pre-Need Code to govern operations of pre-need firms and provide protection to consumers
Provide retirement pay to qualified private sector employees with no retirement plans
Salary and benefits upgrade for teachers and other public employees
Upgrade CHED's Study-Now-Pay-Later Program to allow students from low-income families easier access to education
Expand the Special Education Program for gifted and handicapped children and youth
Create a Commission on Science, Technology and Engineering (COMSTE)
Personal Equity and Retirement Account (PERA) to serve as an alternative long-term savings instrument
Mindanao Incentives Development Act (MIDA) to provide tax and non-tax incentives for private investors in Mindanao
Credit Information System Act to make credit more available, especially to small yet responsible borrowers
Lending Companies Act to create a regulatory framework for lending companies
Corporate Recovery Act to make the debt recovery process more efficient
Revised Investment Company Act (RICA) to enable investment companies to play a vital role in capital formation
Strengthen the Housing Provident Fund System
Amend the BSP Charter to better oversee the banking system

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

IN A DECISION DATED JANUARY 12, 2007, THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF CALOOCAN CITY BRANCH 128, PRESIDED BY JUDGE ELEANOR R. KWONG RENDERED A DECISION IN THE CASE ENTITLED "IN RE: EX-PARTE PETITION FOR ISSUANCE OF WRIT OF POSSESSION GSIS, PETITIONER, SERENITY MEMORIAL PARK, INC. (SERENITY) REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT MARCELINO F. CUAN, RESPONDENT. THE DISPOSITIVE PORTION OF WHICH READS:

> "WHEREFORE, LET THE CORRESPONDING WRIT OF POSSESSION BE ISSUED DIRECTED TO THE SHERIFF OF THIS COURT TO PLACE HEREIN PETITIONER GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY SUBJECT OF THE PETITION AND COVERED BY TCT NO. 195441 (NOW TCT NO. 379058). SINCE THE PERIOD OF REDEMPTION HAS ALREADY EXPIRED, THE POSTING OF THE BOND IS NO LONGER NECESSARY.'

ON MAY 2, 2007, PURSUANT TO THE ABOVE DECISION AND THE WRIT OF POSSESSION ISSUED ON MARCH 22, 2007 THE POSSESSION OF SERENITY MEMORIAL PARK WAS TURNED-OVER TO THE GSIS AND ALL ADVERSE OCCUPANTS VOLUNTARILY VACATED THE SUBJECT PREMISES.

HENCE, ANY AND ALL TRANSACTIONS ENTERED INTO BY SERENITY AND/OR ANY OF ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES WITH ANY PERSON INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE SALE OF PLOTS SHALL NOT BE HONORED BY THE GSIS.

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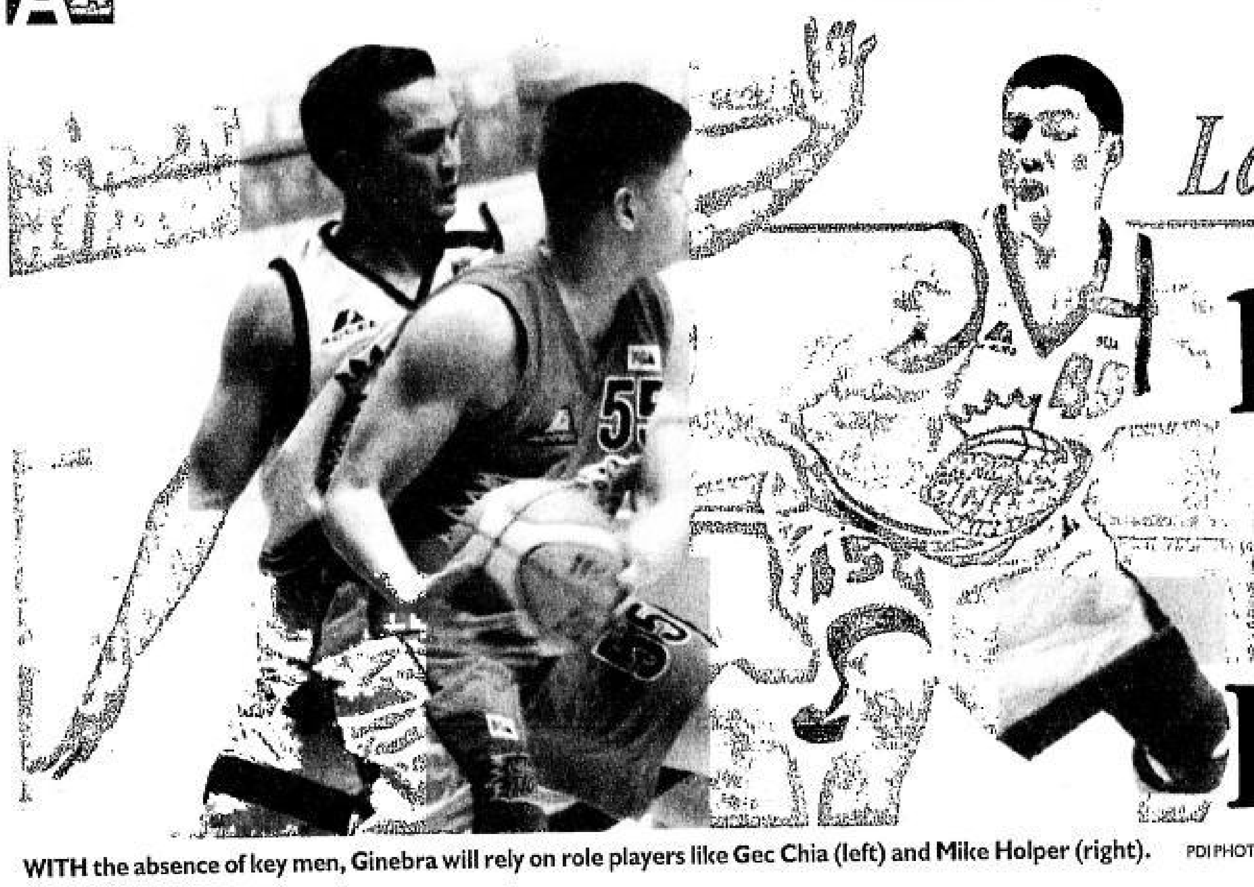


WITH the absence of key men, Ginebra will rely on role players like Gec Chia (left) and Mike Holper (right). PDI PHOTO

Dragons upset Phone Pals; Kings test Aces

By Musong Catillo

ALL STREAKS COME TO AN end—even the bad ones.

Finally putting the pieces together, Welcoat last night snapped a six-game losing skid and put a halt to Talk 'N Text's four-game winning streak with an 98-88 decision in the PBA Fiesta Cup eliminations at The Arena in San Juan.

Wayland White finally posted imports' numbers by shooting 31 points, grabbing 19 rebounds while rookie Jay-R Reyes came out of sick bay to tally 16, five boards and a night-high six blocks as the Dragons finally won after more than a month.

In improving to 3-10, Welcoat thus kept its wafer-thin hopes of advancing to the wild-card phase alive. The Dragons are now just a game down on another slumping side, Sta. Lucia, heading into the final two weeks of the elimination round.

The loss came in the most unexpected manner for the Phone pals, who were riding high on that win run and were heavily favored to make it five-in-a-row considering the way they were playing and how poorly Welcoat was faring until last night.

The loss was the Phone Pals' sixth in 13 games and could eventually tell on their aspirations of making the quarterfinals outright.

In Antipolo City, The Barangay Ginebra Gin Kings put a six-game winning streak on the line while trying to move closer toward an automatic berth in the semifinals when they slug it out with Alaska at the Ynares Center here.

Rod Nealy has plugged every conceivable hole in the Ginebra game and its locals have stepped up big time as the Kings, who weren't given much of a chance at tournament's start, are playing with unbeatable form.

STANDINGS	W	L
Barangay Ginebra	10	2
Red Bull	9	4
Air21	9	4
Alaska	8	4
Talk 'N Text	7	6
San Miguel	5	7
Coca-Cola	5	8
Purefoods	4	9
Sta. Lucia	3	9
Welcoat	3	10

GAMES TODAY

(Ynares Center)

4:35 p.m.—Purefoods vs Sta. Lucia

7:20 p.m.—Alaska vs Barangay Ginebra

"The boys have just done their jobs of stepping up," coach Jong Uichico had said. "We haven't done anything special other than know our roles in the team and perform them."

Nealy, though, has been the biggest reason why the Kings are on an unstoppable roll, doing most everything asked of him to become the yardstick among imports in the league.

"He's just the perfect fit for this team," Uichico said, in trying to downplay the status that his import now enjoys in the league. "It could have been a different story had he been signed by another team."

Nealy will be Rosell Ellis' responsibility. But that is easier said than done with Nealy showing a vast repertoire of offensive moves from inside and out while having the ability to take over games even without scoring that much.

Ronald Tubid has been the Mark Caguioa for the Kings, while Egay Echavez, a virtual unknown before he took over from Jayjay Helterbrand and later on for Johnny Abarrientos, has started carving out a name of his own.

Ginebra is seeking to at least make a second straight Finals appearance after ruling the Philippine Cup at the expense of San Miguel Beer.

The Kings will once again lean on their bench as they try to avenge a first round loss to the Aces in the 7:20 p.m. game.

Purefoods and Sta. Lucia, meanwhile, sides that are on demoralizing losing streaks, clash in the 4:35 p.m. game.

The Tender Juicy Giants have lost their last two games, while the Realtors continue to look like one disoriented lot and have now lost five consecutive outings counting an ugly 106-90 setback to defending champion Red Bull on Wednesday.

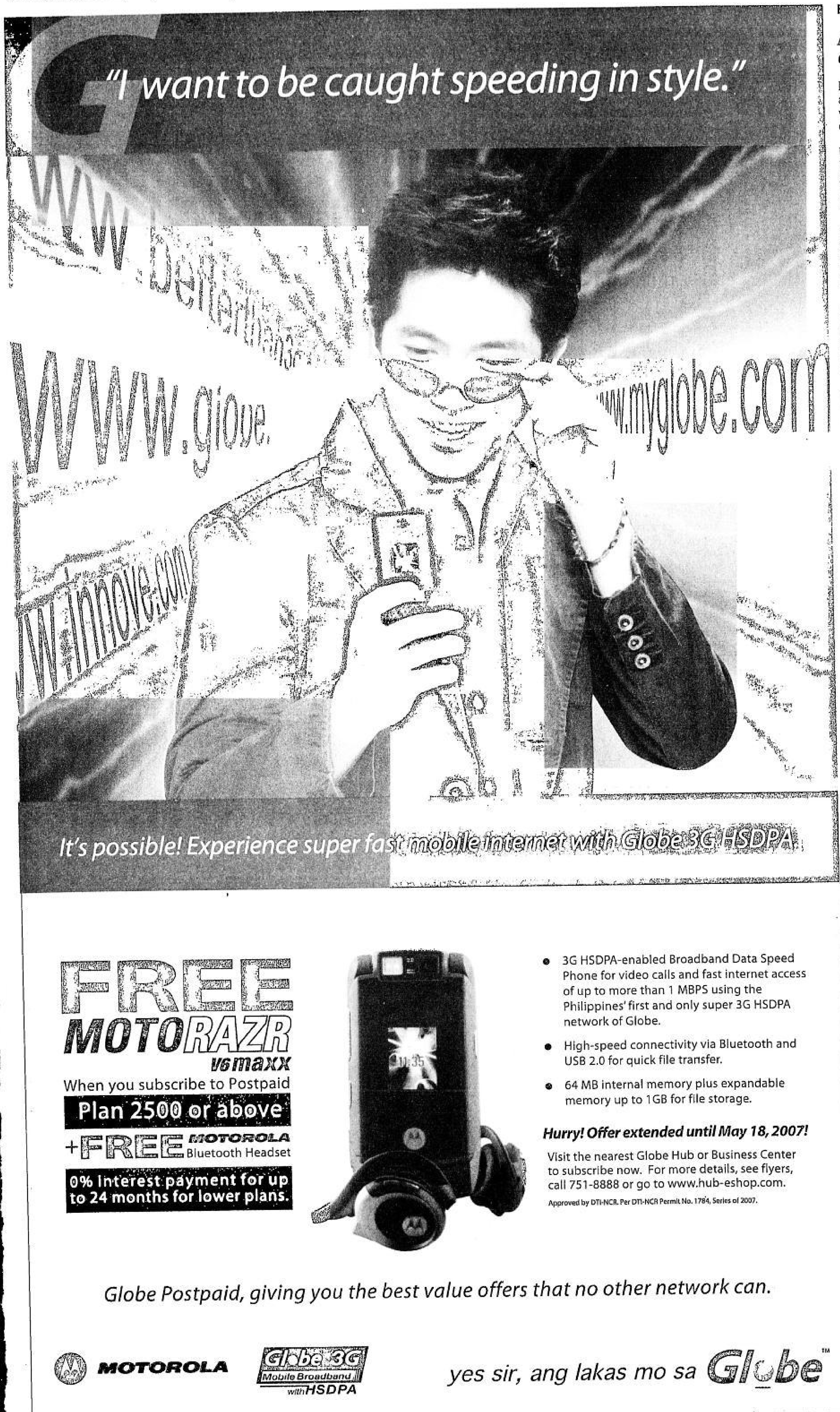
The scores:

WELCOAT 98—White 31, Reyes 16, Wainwright 13, Lopez 12, Compton 11, Cabatu 6, Ybanez 5, Baguion 4, Gelig 0, Sta. Maria 0, Lao 0.

TALK 'N TEXT 88—Sullinger 27, Cardona 19, Washington 17, De Ocampo 8, Carey 6, Belano 6, Billones 3, Noble 2, Fran 0, Pablo 0.

Quarters: 22-20, 45-44, 75-63, 98-88

More Sports stories on A29 to 32



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2 Valenzuela bets nowhere to be found

Mayoral candidates' disqualification sought by rival for post

By Nancy C. Carvajal

TWO MEN WHO FILED CERTIFICATES OF candidacy for mayor of Valenzuela City using as nicknames the first and last names of another candidate are now reportedly nowhere to be found.

Bond paper-sized flyers distributed around the city claim Nestor Palando, 44, and Salvador Gilva, 43, have disappeared. The two reportedly listed their nicknames as "Bobbit" and "Carlos." Rep. Jose Emmanuel "Bobbit" Carlos is the mayoral candidate of the Lakas-CMD party.

Carlos said he had filed disqualification cases against Palando and Gilva for being nuisance candidates and for including false information in their certificates of candidacy (COC).

Though the police had not been notified of the alleged disappearance, Gilva's aunt, Teresita Gilva, had been reportedly looking for the two since they left their homes around the first week of April. Gilva, however, was not available to comment on the case.

Sought for comment, Carlos said, "The pair, according to the relatives, left their homes and also stopped reporting for work."

Police records showed Palando and Gilda were not on the list of missing persons.

"We have not received any complaint from anyone regarding their supposed status," the city's chief of police Supt. Billy Beltran said.

Gilva and Palando, who are reportedly good friends, allegedly disappeared right after they filed their COC on March 29. Copies of the COC showed these were filed five minutes apart the morning of that day.

The flyers about the pair's alleged disappearance were supposedly distributed by Carlos' supporters. The flyers, with big black letters printed on each sheet read: "Wanted 2 kandidato para mayor—nagtatago."

The flyers also carried reprints of the COCs of the two candidates indicating their supposed nicknames. The other side of the flyers contained information on how the pair allegedly lied in their COCs.

In seeking the disqualification of Palando and Gilva, Carlos said: "The falsehood they wrote on their COC was meant to mock the election and render in disarray the process of determining the voter's will."

In the affidavit he submitted to Comelec, the mayoral candidate said the pair was known to people as Nestor and Buddy. He presented as evidence sworn statements by relatives, including Teresita, and coworkers who attested to the pair's names.

Observers asked to monitor Makati polls

By DJ Yap

MAKATI MAYOR JEJOMAR BINAY CALLED on foreign observers yesterday to monitor closely the conduct of polls in the country's financial capital.

Binay issued the call following Malacañang's alleged aborted efforts to unseat him.

The mayor, whose reelection bid has been challenged by administration candidate Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid, warned, "Desperation on the part of the local candidates of President Macapagal-Arroyo could force them to take drastic action, including cheating, fraud, and acts of violence."

Binay, also president of the United Opposition, said foreign observers, as well as volunteers of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, could help deter acts of cheating and harassment in the city.

The Commission on Elections (Comelec) said it had accredited 219 foreign observers from 12 countries and seven international organizations for the May 14 polls.

Binay said there had been "rising tension" in the city since Malacañang attempted to oust him.

Earlier, he asked the Comelec and Philippine National Police to relieve Southern Police District (SPD) Director Roberto Rosales for allegedly engaging in partisan political activities.

Binay claimed Rosales displayed bias for administration candidates. Rosales denied the charge, saying he was just doing his job. Meanwhile, Binay said a "groundswell of support" for him developed after the suspension order and the freezing of the city's assets.

Binay was served a suspension order Friday night by the Ombudsman for allegedly maintaining ghost employees. The complaint was filed by a political rival, Oscar Ibay.

Earlier, the Bureau of Internal Revenue froze the city's bank accounts and the personal accounts of Binay and Vice Mayor Ernesto Mercado over some P1.1 billion in alleged unpaid taxes.

With Kimberly Tan

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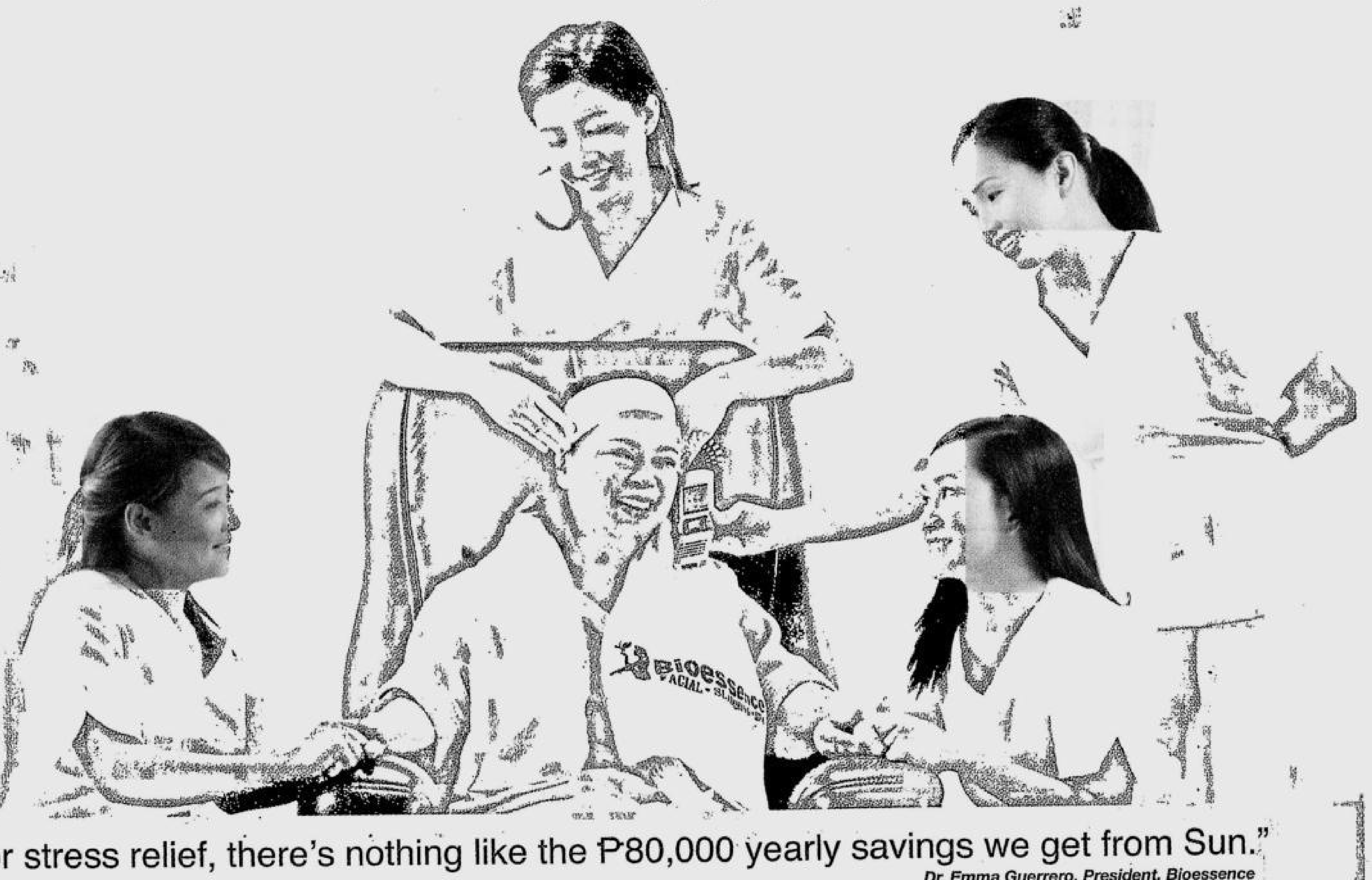

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QC Mayor Belmonte's disqualification sought

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

SEVERAL QUEZON CITY CANDIDATES, including an independent mayoral aspirant, filed yesterday a disqualification case against Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte and his party mates yesterday.

At the same time, Andy Rosales, who is gunning for the city's top post, belied reports that the incumbent had no rivals.

"It is not true that he is unopposed," the 43-year-old Rosales, a civil engineer, told the INQUIRER as he and congressional bet Hans Palacios filed with the Commission on Elections National Capital Region Office the disqualification petition.

So far, more than 53 election cases arising from alleged violations during the campaign period have been filed in Metro Manila. At least 29 of these are petitions for disqualification of candidates.

In seeking Belmonte's disqualification, Rosales and other petitioners alleged Belmonte and five other candidates posted campaign materials outside designated common poster areas, a violation of the Fair Elections Act.

Included in the disqualification case are vice mayoral candidate Herbert Bautista and congressional bets Vincent Crisologo, Mary Ann Susano, Matias Defensor Jr. and Nanette Daza. The other petitioners are Rolando Jota, Norma Nueva and Ramon Calderon.

The Comelec earlier said candidates who did not tear down illegal posters three days after they were notified would be presumed to have caused the posting of the materials.

Violating the rule on common poster areas was a ground for disqualification, Comelec NCR Director Michael Dioneda told the INQUIRER earlier.

In their complaint, the petitioners said Comelec election officers directed Belmonte and the five other candidates in notices sent April 27 to remove the illegal posters within three days.

"Said notices were received by the respondents but up to now they have not removed their illegal posters," the petitioners also said.

A disqualification case for alleged vote-buying was also filed against Pasig City mayoral bet Robert "Dodot" Jaworski and his rival Robert "Bobby" Eusebio.

ELEKSYON 2007

Proxy war shapes up in Navotas mayoral race

By Tina G. Santos

THE BATTLE FOR NAVOTAS' TOP post is seen by many as a proxy war between President Macapagal-Arroyo and ousted former President "Erap" Estrada.

"That's probably true because only two are competing for the post," said Mayor Tobias "Toby" Tiangco. Tiangco is being challenged by Rep. Ricky Sandoval.

Tiangco told the INQUIRER the fight was between him, who has "continuously adhered to the same principles and convictions he had since 2001," and "somebody who's very close to the one sitting in Malacañang."

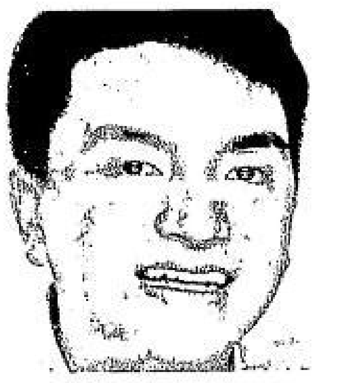
The mayor is a staunch opposition member. He campaigned for Estrada during the 1998 presidential race and for Estrada's best friend, the late Fernando Poe Jr., when he ran in 2004.

Tiangco is also spokesperson in Metro Manila of the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino, Estrada's party.

Sandoval, who is on his third and last term as Malabon-Navotas congressman, does not see the contest as a proxy war.

"This should be a performance-based, issue-based campaign although my opponent uses the photos of Erap in his campaign posters," Sandoval said in a separate interview.

"I work on the principle that people should know what you have done for them. And, based on my projects, they can make their decision," he said.


TIANGCO

SANDOVAL

Sandoval said he was his own person. "I think my performance for nine years will speak for itself," he added. But he also admitted he occasionally mentioned the President in his campaign speeches. "I give credit to her whenever I talk about a certain project which was made possible through her help," the solon said.

Tiangco, one of three opposition mayoral candidates in Metro Manila, has posters showing him with Estrada and actress Susan Roces, Poe's widow.

Taped messages of support from Estrada and Roces were aired during his proclamation rally.

Admitting he often mentioned Estrada, Poe and Roces in his speeches, Tiangco said, "How can I not mention them when they are associated with what I believe in and what I have been fighting for all this time?"

Sandoval acknowledged that Navotas "is traditionally opposition country." "Last 2004, *sa buong Metro Manila, pinakamalaki ang talo ni Presidente sa buong Navotas at Malabon.*"

Tiangco shot back, *"Hindi lang naman sa Navotas nanalo si FPJ, panalo naman talaga si FPJ* last elections."

Sandoval said he believed voters were mature enough now to choose who they thought would serve them well.

Though Sandoval said he believed people would judge him for himself, Tiangco saw the President as a factor in the elections.

He mentioned the relief of Navotas' election officer Arnulfo Aguilar and chief of police Supt. Genesis Tolejano a few weeks ago. The mayor said there would be no problem if they did the same in all other cities and municipalities.

Tiangco and Sandoval used to belong to the local Partido Navoteno. But Sandoval has joined the Liberal Party faction of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, a staunch Arroyo supporter.

METROBRIEFS

Talent exec found dead

QUEZON City police ruled out foul play in the death of a talent manager whose body was found hanging from the stairwell of his two-story house early yesterday morning. Romulo "Joe" Diego Jr., 40, allegedly hanged himself with a nylon cord from the second floor stairwell of his home at Roseville Town Homes, on Samar Avenue in Barangay South Triangle. Diego is reportedly the manager of actors Marvin Agustin, and Angelika de la Cruz, among others, and other television network talents. According to PO2 Joseph Diño, Diego's housemates said the victim gave instructions on how to dispose of his belongings one day before the incident. Diño added that based on the witnesses' statements, they overheard Diego discussing his debts with someone on his cellular phone. A maid found his body seven hours after he was last seen by his housemates when they had dinner together.

Jeannette I. Andrade

$1M-donation to PGH

COCA-COLA Company International top officials handed over $1,000,000 recently to the Philippine General Hospital Medical Foundation Inc. for the PGH Adopt-a-Ward Program. The program, initiated by PGH director, Dr. Carmelo Alfiler, aims to renovate the antiquated facilities of the facility. Dr. Virgilio Novero Jr., PGH deputy director for financial services, emceed the program. Dr. Gregorio Alvior, PGH Medical Foundation president introduced the guest, Coca-Cola Company CEO and chair Neville Isdell, who congratulated the PGH on its 100 years of excellent service, calling the hospital "an icon among Philippine health institutions." Witnessing the turnover were PGH director Dr. Carmelo Alfiler, UP Manila vice chancellor, Dr. Orlino Talens, Coca-Cola Export public relations director, Jose Bayani Baylon, guest Sen. Pia Cayetano, PGH Medical Foundation officers and local Coca-Cola executives.

Chemical spill forces UP Manila to close down lab

By Allison W. Lopez

A CHEMICAL SPILL CAUSED A small explosion yesterday inside a laboratory of the University of the Philippines (UP) College of Medicine on Padre Faura Street, Manila.

Nauseous fumes came out of Rm. 311 of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology building as a result of the incident, according to Pablito Cordeta, chief marshal of the Manila fire department.

Cordeta said his department received a call from the university around 1 p.m. reporting the spill. He said they were able to contain the spill by spreading sawdust to absorb the chemicals on the floor.

No casualties were reported because the laboratory was unattended at the time, Cordeta said.

Retrieval operations from the site yielded two gallons of chemicals such as bromine, phosphoric acid, arsenate solution and ethyl acetate. The fire marshall said the combination of the recovered chemicals was a "normal reaction." He added that the explosion may have been triggered by a change in temperature. More tests will have to be conducted to determine the real cause, he said.

Cordeta said the laboratory will remain closed for two days while the tests are ongoing.

Six months ago, a big chemical spill occurred at the San Isidro National High School in Makati City. The school was shut down for several weeks as residents nearby were evacuated because of the toxic fumes. *With Cyrian Agujo*

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Blair to quit in June after tumultuous decade

TRIMDON, ENGLAND—PRIME MINISTER Tony Blair announced his resignation on Thursday, ending a tumultuous decade in power as one of Britain's most successful leaders but ultimately dividing the nation over the Iraq war.

Amid tributes from the rival who is almost certain to take over, and tearful applause from his constituents, Blair said he would stand down as leader of the Labor Party and prime minister from June 27.

Blair said he had taken over a country "uncertain of its future, uncertain about the future" but that his government had achieved more than any other in Britain since the end of the World War II in 1945.

Finance minister Gordon Brown, the frontrunner to replace Blair despite their rivalry, hailed the prime minister's "unique leadership" at a cabinet meeting in London before Blair flew off to Trimdon in northeast England to make his announcement.

"There was much thumping of the table," said the spokesperson, briefing reporters on the 15-minute cabinet session in Downing Street.

"Gordon paid a very full tribute to Tony in there," added Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Hain.

Blair, 54, will stand down after 10 years in power which started with the handover of Hong Kong to China on July 1, 1997 and guiding the royal family and the nation through the trauma of the death of Princess Diana.

He also presided over a booming British economy but for many his legacy risks being clouded by the 2003 invasion of Iraq. His premiership started amid euphoria but is ending with his popularity at record lows.

Blair went to his constituency of Sedgefield, which he has represented since 1983 to make a long awaited resignation announcement, which comes just over a week after he marked 10 years as prime minister.

Blair won three general elections and originally promised to serve a full third term of office, which would have kept him in office to 2010, but not fight for a fourth; straight term of office.

But after a mini "coup" by some Labor lawmakers last September, allegedly orchestrated by Brown, Blair was forced to say he would step down by September this year.

Brown, 56, who shared an office with Blair when they were first elected to parliament in 1983 and who jointly reformed Labor, is a virtual certainty to become his successor.

Senior cabinet-level colleagues, including Home Secretary John Reid and the much-fancied Environment Secretary David Miliband, have ruled out standing, leaving only two token challengers from the left wing of the party.

But they are unlikely to present a serious challenge and may not acquire the necessary 44 signatures each to have their names put on the leadership election ballot.

Under the British system, the leader of the biggest party in parliament automatically becomes prime minister.

Blair is expected to endorse Brown publicly as his successor for the first time, although observers believe he could delay this until Friday. *AFP*

BLAIR hugged by his wife Cherie outside No. 10 Downing Street in London, shortly after his election, in this May 2, 1997 photo. AP

Democrats urge Bush to end World Bank crisis

WASHINGTON—SENIOR US DEMOCRATS urged President George W. Bush to step in to end the "historic crisis" over Paul Wolfowitz's World Bank leadership as pressure mounted for him to resign to avoid a possible divisive vote.

The World Bank's 24-nation board of member countries is set to meet on Friday to decide Wolfowitz's fate over a controversial pay and promotion deal that he approved in 2005 for his companion, bank Middle East expert Shaha Riza.

The board is divided. European countries are pushing for Wolfowitz to step down and the United States is shoring up support for him among a clutch of allies like Canada and a few Asian and African countries.

In a letter to Bush, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Democratic Sens. Patty Murray, Richard Durbin and Charles Schumer warned that the crisis was damaging the institution and undermining US interests, especially its traditional role in choosing the bank's president.

"We urge you to take decisive action quickly to bring this crisis to a close," they told Bush, echoing concerns expressed by other prominent Democrats, including presidential candidates Bill Richardson and John Edwards.

The Democratic senators said the bank's board may be compelled to take an unprecedented step and vote on Wolfowitz's fate.

There are no rules for the dismissal of a World Bank chief because it has never happened in the bank's 62-year history and could either be put to a vote or decided by consensus. *Reuters*

At least 20 civilians dead in Afghan air strike

KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN—BOMBING by foreign forces killed 20 to 30 Afghan villagers, a governor and witness told AFP on Wednesday in the latest claim of heavy civilian casualties in anti-Taliban operations.

The US-led coalition confirmed it had called in "air support" amid intense battles with Taliban fighters in the southern province of Helmand on Tuesday that had killed an unknown number of rebels and a coalition soldier.

But it was not aware that civilians had been killed, spokesperson Maj. Chris Belcher said. "There were enemy casualties in (the) operation last night—I don't have an exact number," he said.

The coalition is smarting from claims of mounting civilian casualties after nearly 60 other people were said to have been killed in its operations late last month, according to investigations and residents.

"Afghan President Hamid Karzai summoned commanders of the coalition and the separate Nato-led force, and other top foreign diplomats, last week to protest.

The bombing began in Helmand province just before midnight Tuesday, a villager named only Noorullah told AFP.

"Around 30 people are dead," he said by telephone. "The number might rise because there are still people under the debris." He said most of the dead and wounded were women and children. "We took the wounded kids to the foreign forces base to show them who they have bombed." Helmand province governor Assadullah Wafa said he had sent a team to the area to establish what had happened. "Twenty-one civilians including women and children were killed," he said.

Coalition and Afghan soldiers battled Taliban fighters in Helmand for around 16 hours on Tuesday, the coalition said in a statement.

The troops fought through three separate enemy ambushes while dozens of Taliban fighters from the surrounding area reinforced rebel positions.

The coalition initially denied there had been civilian casualties, saying 136 Taliban fighters were killed. It said later it was investigating. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Putin appears to compare US policies to Nazi Germany

MOSCOW—President Vladimir V. Putin seemed to obliquely compare the foreign policy of the United States to that of the Third Reich in a speech on Wednesday commemorating the 62nd anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. The comments were the latest in a series of sharply worded Russian criticisms of the foreign policy of the United States—on Iraq, missile defense, Nato expansion and, more broadly, US unilateralism in foreign affairs. Many Russians say the sharper edge reflects a frustration that Russia's views, in particular opposition to Nato expansion, have been ignored in the West. Outside of Russia, however, many detected in the new tone a return to Cold War-style antagonism, emboldened by oil wealth. Putin's analogy was a small part of a larger speech, otherwise unambiguously congratulating Russian veterans of World War II, known here as the Great Patriotic War. *NYT*

Four more arrests made in 2005 London bombings

LEEDS, ENGLAND—The British police on Wednesday arrested three men and the widow of a suicide bomber involved in the terrorist attack on the London transit system in 2005 on suspicion that they helped in the atrocity that killed 56 people, including the four bombers. Three of the early morning detentions, the second round of arrests in six weeks in connection with the attack, were in the West Yorkshire region of Britain where three of the four suicide bombers lived, and the other in Birmingham, in the West Midlands region. The arrests suggested that after a long period of investigation with little early success, the police were beginning to piece together how the plot worked and who else, aside from the four suicide bombers, was responsible. The latest arrests, together with the apprehension of three men in late March, are changing the presumption that the bombers took the secrets of their plan with them. Now, the organization behind the attack—both in Britain and in Pakistan, where two of the suicide bombers had traveled—could be publicized at a trial. It is unlikely, however, that those arrested Wednesday masterminded the plot, analysts said. *NYT*

Gonzales seems confident he will stay, officials say

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales appears increasingly confident that he will survive the crisis over the dismissal of federal prosecutors, as White House aides who view him as a liability see little point in trying to persuade President Bush to push him out, administration officials and Republican allies said. Though Gonzales is considered in Congress and in legal circles as an isolated and diminished figure, he has told aides he believes he has weathered the storm. He is expected to testify Thursday before the House Judiciary Committee about his department's dismissals last year of several US attorneys. Republicans close to the White House say that top aides to the president—including Karl Rove, the chief political strategist, and Fred F. Fielding, the White House counsel—have privately expressed misgivings about Gonzales but now appear to have lined up behind Bush. *NYT*

PRIME PROPERTIES / SHARES FOR SALE

The **AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS)** invites interested parties to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties / company shares of stocks / golf club shares on "cash", "as-is, where-is" basis:

Item No.	Description	Location	Minimum / Floor Price
07-1	1.5 million shares of stock of Monterrosa Dev't Corporation	150-hectare residential lot located in Bgy Batulao, Nasugbu, Batangas (near Evercrest Golf Club)	P 892,500,000.00
07-2	Rivera Golf Club Shares 945 Class A Shares 834 Class B Shares 500 Class C Shares	Riviera Golf Club, Incorporated, Silang, Cavite (Two 18-Hole Championship Golf Courses)	P 1,183,950,000.00 (selling 45% controlling interest at Riviera Golf Club, Inc)
07-3	1,577,007 sqm industrial lot	Sabang, Morong, Bataan (beside Ayala Land's Anvaya Cove Project)	P 816,889,626.00
The following properties will also be sold by way of sealed bids on cash or term basis (min. 30% down payment; 16% interest rate p.a., max. 5 yrs to pay):			
07-4	House & Lot L/A 230.9 sqm F/A 248.49 sqm	1545 2nd Street, Fabie Estate, Paco, Manila	P 3,551,215.00
07-5	House & Lot L/A 329 sqm F/A 167 sqm	B18, L4, Rosario Bayview Subd., Sucat, Muntinlupa	P 2,458,540.00
07-6	House & Lot F/A 618.98 sqm L/A 2,607 sqm	29 Sunflower Dr. Beverly Hills,Taytay, Rizal	P 7,081,592.76
07-7	291 sqm residential lot	B45 L26 Cer-Hil Subd., Quebiawan, San Fernando, Pampanga	P 321,555.00
07-8	489 sqm residential lot	#245 Concepcion, Bo. Rio-Chico, Gen. Tinio, Nueva Ecija	P 229,071.60

For interested parties, please note the following activities that will be held at the Board Room, RSBS, 424 Capinpin Avenue, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.:

Pre-Bidding Conference	Deadline for Acceptance of Bids	Opening of Sealed Bids
May 17, 2007 10:00 a.m.	May 23, 2007 10:00 a.m.	May 23, 2007 10:15 a.m.

Bidding documents shall be available starting May 11, 2007 at the Property Management Office, 3/F, RSBS Bldg., Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. at P500.00 each.

For inquiries on Item 07-1, please call Putch or Amor at 912-0056
For inquiries on Item 07-2, please call Yas or Tammy at 911-8714 / 912-4724 / 912-3695
For inquiries on other items, please call Liza or Darwin at 912-4718

(PDI – May 8, 9 & 10, 2007)

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Excommunication for abortionists

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL—BENEDICT XVI ARRIVED in Brazil on Wednesday, starting his first papal trip to Latin America with strong words against abortion, roiling a Catholic continent increasingly divided by the issue.

On the plane from Rome, Pope Benedict appeared to go further than the Vatican has before on the contentious issue of Catholic politicians who favor abortion laws. He seemed to suggest that legislators in Mexico City who recently voted to approve abortion in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy had excommunicated themselves.

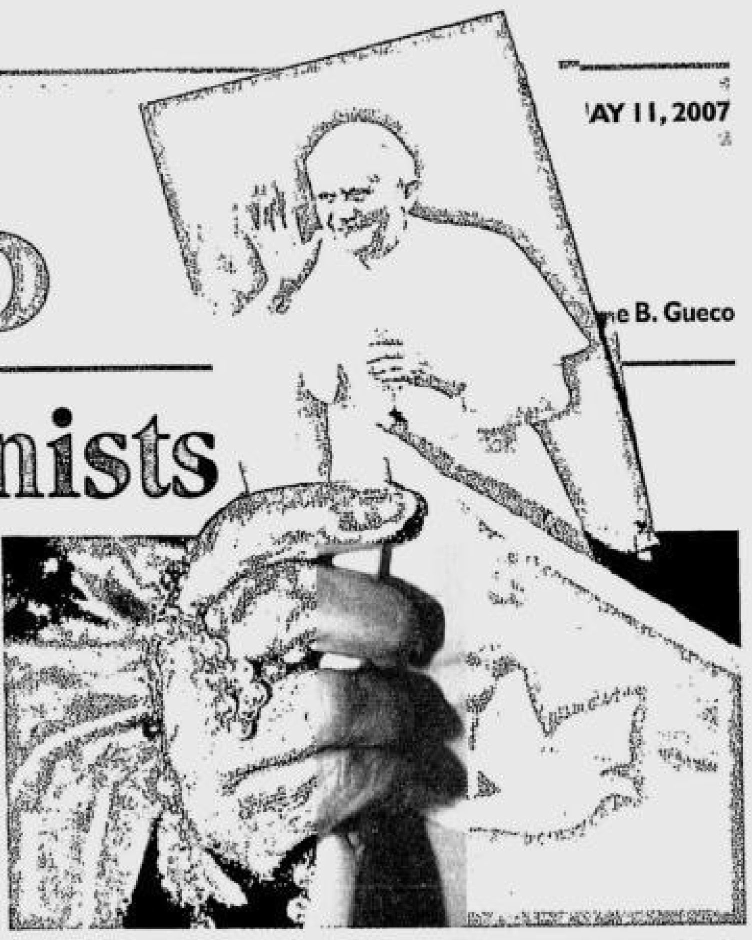
"Yes, the excommunication isn't something arbitrary—it's part of the code" of church law, the 80-year-old Pope said, in Italian, responding to a question in the first full-fledged news conference of his two-year pontificate. "The killing of an innocent human child is incompatible with going into communion in the body of Christ."

The Pope's spokesperson, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, quickly issued a clarification that played down his words, but then issued a statement approved by the Pope that seemed to confirm a new gravity on pro-abortion politicians.

"Legislative action in favor of abortion is incompatible with participation in the Eucharist," the statement said, and pro-choice politicians should "exclude themselves from communion."

Lombardi's initial clarifying statement said that the Pope had intended to refer to current Vatican policy, as expressed in a document on the Eucharist that Pope Benedict issued in December. In that, Pope Benedict said that certain values, including protecting human life from conception to natural death, were "not negotiable" and that Catholic politicians have a "grave responsibility" to promote such laws.

On Wednesday afternoon, Pope Benedict arrived here in Sao Paulo, the largest city in South America, for a four-day trip. *NYT*



A BRAZILIAN holds a rosary and pictures of Pope Benedict XVI while he appears on the balcony of a monastery in Sao Paulo, Brazil on May 9. AFP

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Hyundai vehicles exclusive distributor in the country, Hyundai Asia Resources. Inc., continues to be steadfast in upholding and supporting entrepreneurship. Represented by it Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo, HARI yet again sealed a deal as the Event Presentor of the upcoming Kabuhayang Swak na Swak-The Exhibit, to be held on May 25-27, 2007 at Megatrade Hall 1, SM Megamall. Aimed at making entrepreneurship and good money habits part of Filipino lives, this exhibit organized by Bayan Productions Company, Inc., and IPBS, Inc. will feature forums and exhibits that will give people useful business ideas, including Hyundai's presentation on how to make it big in business with the Starex PRO.

From left to right: Ms. Marissa Balmaceda, VP for Strategic Planning and Account Management of Triprod, Inc.; Ms. Ma. Fe Perez-Agudo, HARI EVP and COO; Ms. Katherine de Castro, President of Bayan Productions Co. Inc.; and Mr. Jose Magsaysay, Chairman of IPBS, Inc.

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Batang Pier feast on cold Whoppers / A30

UNDEFEATED FISTS: Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista (right) and AJ "Bazooka" Banal, two of the country's biggest world title prospects, put their fists together on their arrival from Los Angeles yesterday. The duo preserved their unbeaten slates with unanimous decision wins last Saturday at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

INQUIRER PHOTO / JESS YUSON

Home are the Vegas brave

By Salven L. Lagumbay, Contributor

REY "BOOM BOOM" BAUTISTA got a feel of what's it like to be a star yesterday.

The unbeaten Filipino boxing star flew business class from Las Vegas and was warmly received by fans on his team's arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The 20-year-old Bautista, accompanied by another undefeated fighter, AJ "Bazooka" Banal, his manager Michael Aldeguer and promoter Sammy Gello-ani, relegated noted American promoter Bob Arum, who took the same flight, to the sideline.

Bautista and the 18-year-old Banal were later whisked off to television stations in Manila before they capped their day by attending a boxing event in Quezon City promoted by Gello-ani.

Bautista, who beat erstwhile unbeaten Sergio Manuel Medina underneath the Oscar De La Hoya-Floyd Mayweather clash in Las Vegas on May 5, said he was too happy to be back home.

The card, dubbed "The World Awaits" generated a new record 2.15 million pay-per-view buys, with the Bautista-Medina fight described by the American media as "the one that saved the promotion" and was listed a possible "Fight of the Year" candidate.

Bautista and Banal are slated to arrive in Cebu today, and will motor from the Cebu-Mactan International Airport to the Marriott Hotel.

In the afternoon, Bautista will take a trip to his hometown in Tagbilaran City where Mayor Dan Neri Lim will roll out the red carpet for him.

After a two-week rest, Bautista is slated to be back in the gym to prepare for his big fight with WBO super bantam champ Daniel Ponce De Leon which will headline the "World Cup" of boxing card sometime in August or September this year.

Pacquiao's trainers part ways

FOR JUSTIN FORTUNE, IT'S TIME TO strike a fortune on his own—away from the shadow of famous trainer Freddie Roach.

Fortune left Roach's Wild Card Gym in a huff on Saturday, severing his ties with the two-time Trainer of the Year who is credited for Manny Pacquiao's rise to ring stardom.

Roach had entrusted to Fortune Pacquiao's training for his recent fight with Mexican Jorge Solis, while he prepared Oscar De La Hoya in Puerto Rico for his world title fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr.

The parting with Fortune was bitter, according to Roach, in an interview with Brad Cooney of PhilBoxing.com. Thursday.

PACQUIAO'S/ A30

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RP five intact for Iran; Villanueva still in

VILLANUEVA

By Musong R. Castillo

CHOT REYES WILL HAVE A COMPLETE TEAM after all.

Enrico Villanueva, the bull-strong Red Bull center, will join the rest of the Philippine team in Tehran, Iran, for the Fiba Asia Champions Cup after suiting up for the Bulls in a PBA Fiesta Cup road game in Cebu tomorrow.

Villanueva, who took the place of Rudy Hatfield on the roster, was given the green light to catch up with the Nationals in Iran after playing against San Miguel at the Cebu Coliseum.

The RP team departs at 12:20 a.m. today for Dubai, where they will take a two-hour connecting flight to Tehran.

Only Villanueva has been given the special privilege of rejoining his mother team after his appointment to the RP squad. After missing two games, Villanueva rejoined the Bulls and led them to victory against Sta. Lucia Wednesday.

The Champions Cup format calls for the nine teams to be divided into two groups, with the Philippines drawn into the five-team Group B along with Iran, Kazakhstan, Syria and Bahrain.

Iran will be first up for the Filipinos on Sunday. They then clash with the Kazakhs, the Syrians and Bahrainis in the next three days.

Most, if not all, of the participating countries there will have two imports each, save for the Philippines, which Reyes said will not go there to win but to gear up for bigger battles ahead.

But a 103-100 victory over the PBA Imports in an exhibition game on Tuesday has given officials a glimmer of hope that the Champions Cup is a winnable tournament.

"This (win over the Imports) goes directly into our confidence bank," Reyes had told scribes.

Villanueva is suffering from back spasms and played limited minutes for Red Bull in a 106-90 demolition of Sta. Lucia on Wednesday. He still went on to lead all scorers with 17.

The former Ateneo ace leaves after the Saturday game, accompanied by assistant coach Nash Racela, to join Asi Taulava, Ren-Ren Ritualo, Jimmy Alapag, Mick Pennisi, Ranidel De Ocampo, Kerby Raymundo, Danny Seigle, Dondon Hontiveros, Jay-Jay Helterbrand and Mark Caguioa.

Batang Pier feast on cold Whoppers

By Jasmine W. Payo

HARBOUR CENTRE TURNED TO its big men to clinch its sixth straight win yesterday.

Dominating the paint, Batang Pier exacted a vengeful 83-79 win over the Burger King Whoppers to keep the solo lead in the PBL Unity Cup at the Olivarez Sports Center.

Batang Pier top gunner Jason Castro yielded the limelight to bruisers Chad Alonzo, Beau Belga and Edwin Asoro, who pummeled the Whoppers off the offensive boards, 24-9, and gave Harbour 23 second chance points.

Alonzo shone brightest with 18 points and 15 rebounds—10 offensively—as Batang Pier improved their leading record to 6-1.

In the second game, Henkel Sista bucked the loss of sensational recruit Ryan Reyes to hack out an 82-70 overtime win over Toyota Balintawak.

Reyes, a 6-foot-1 Fil-Am point guard, shot 16 points before fouling out with less than two minutes left in the fourth period, which ended at 68-all. But the Super Sealers outplayed the Road Kings in the extension to clinch their fourth straight win after a 0-4 start.

The Road Kings, who scored their lone bucket in the extra period with 1.1 seconds left, dropped to 3-4.

"For a change, it's our big men who stepped up," said Harbour coach Jorge Gallent.

Batang Pier nailed six straight free throws in the final minute, including two from Castro that gave Batang Pier an 81-78 advantage with 19.5 seconds remaining.

The Whoppers skidded to their third straight loss for a third-best 4-3 record despite the return of coach Lawrence Chongson from the United States.

The Whoppers looked poised to duplicate their 81-77 first-round victory with Jim Viray and JR Quiñahan leading them to a 15-point advantage, 34-19, in the second quarter.

The scores:

First Game

HARBOUR CENTRE 83—Alonzo 18, Lanete 17, Belga 15, Duncil 10, Vergara 8, Asoro 4, Ortiguerra 4, Intal 3, Castro 2, Capati 2, Fernandez 0.

BURGER KING 79—Viray 16, Quiñahan 14, Bravo 10, Reyes 8, Ballesteros 8, Saguindel 6, Urbiztondo 5, David 4, Buenafe 4, Dizon 4, Garrido 0, Aquino 0, Te 0.

Quarters: 17-25, 35-40, 66-62, 83-79

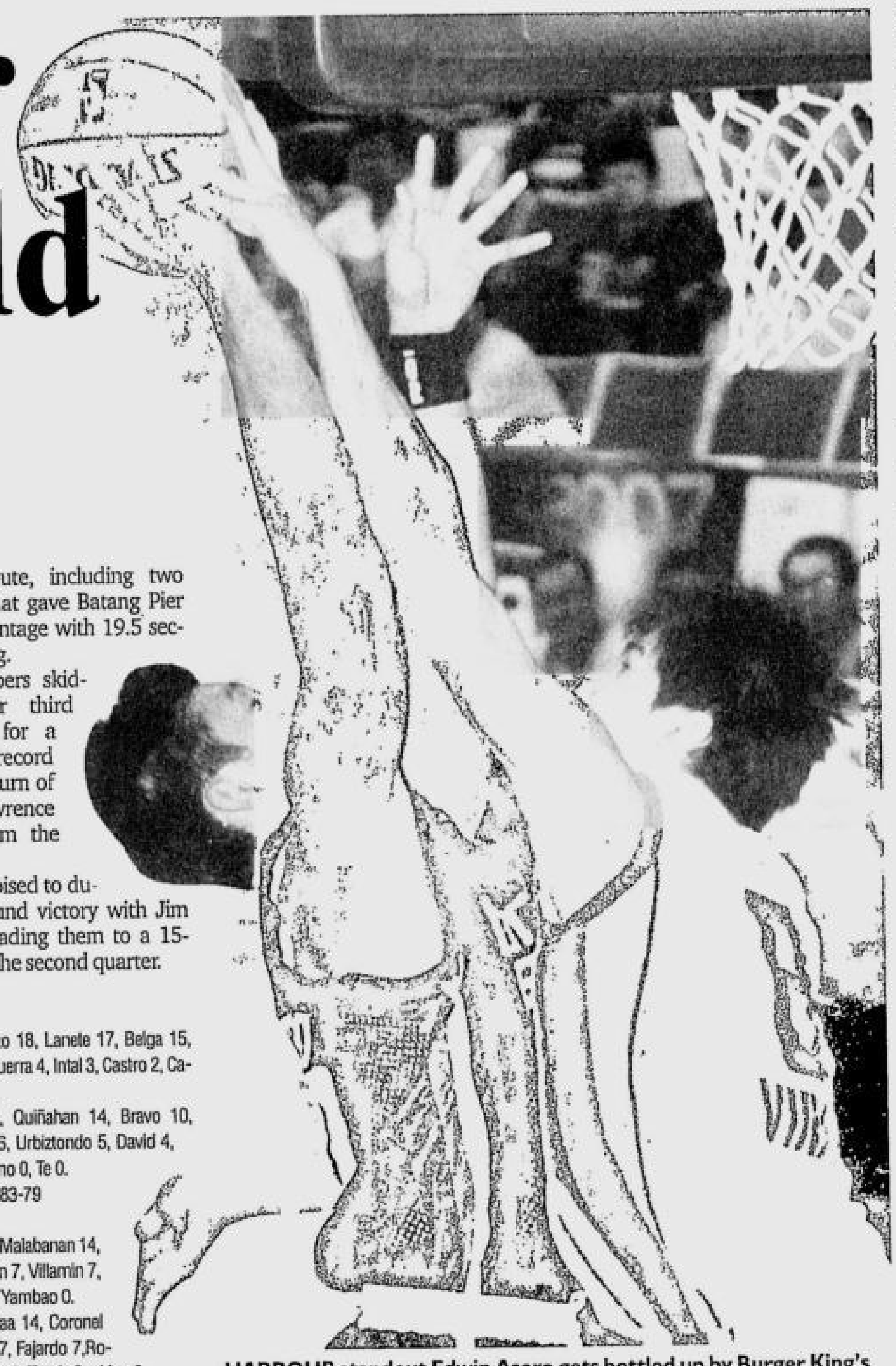
Second Game

HENKEL SISTA 82—Reyes 16, Malabanan 14, Matias 10, Misa 9, Bonus 7, Buazon 7, Villamin 7, Alfad 6, Javier 4, Ebuen 2, Eman 0, Yambao 0.

TOYOTA BALINTAWAK 70—Daa 14, Coronel 9, Jaime 8, Cabahug 8, Guerrero 7, Fajardo 7, Rodriguez 6, Baluyot 4, Cruz 3, Nocom 2, Tan 2, Coching 0.

Quarters: 16-9, 31-29, 55-50, 68-68, 82-70 (OT)

GAMES TOMORROW
(*The Arena, San Juan*)
12 noon—San Miguel-Magnolia vs Cebuana Lhuillier
2 p.m.—Dazz 'Sang Patak vs Burger King
4 p.m.—Harbour vs Toyota Balintawak


HARBOUR standout Edwin Asoro gets bottled up by Burger King's Jim Viray in their game yesterday. RYAN LIM

Padyak Pinoy tour draws usual solid backers

By Musong R. Castillo

BARNACHEA

WITH SOLID CORPORATE BACKING, THE Padyak Pinoy has gone bigger each year.

Tanduay and Air21 reaffirmed their support for the annual cycling spectacle, as the 2007 edition of the fabled Tour kicks off on Thursday, May 17.

"It has become Tanduay's passion to support sporting endeavors and the Padyak Pinoy has become a priority event of the company," said Larry Li, the advertising manager of Tanduay.

Li and Tanduay president for marketing Andres Co have committed the company's support to Padyak Pinoy, with the blessing of Tanduay big boss Lucio Tan and president Wilson Young.

Li has joined the last six editions of the Tour, traveling with the caravan to each and every stop.

Lito

Alvarez, meanwhile, was the chief architect of the revival of the Tour after a ban on tobacco advertising doomed the sport in the late 1990s.

"We at Air21 and the LGC [Lina Group of Companies] for that matter have cycling so very close to our hearts that we eagerly await each summer to see our grizzled cyclists race for fame and fortune," said Alvarez.

This year's edition will be longer than last year and cover 1,500 kilometers.

The Tour sets out from Quezon City on the way to Baguio before returning to Metro Manila. There will be 10 stages in 12 days.

Veteran Santy Barnachea pedals for a repeat individual championship, while Cossack Vodka, the Cinderella team last year, guns for a second straight title with a solid, intact roster.

Dacia powers Ozamiz five; Quezon wins

OZAMIZ CITY—DEFENDING CHAMPION Ozamiz rode on PBL veteran Bruce Dacia's 33-point explosion to rip the Toyota-Iloilo Warriors, 102-91, Wednesday night in the 2007 Spring Cooking Oil-NBC National Cup basketball tournament at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym here.

Dacia converted 11 of his 14 field attempts, including 3-of-4 from the arc, to give the Cotta Shrine cagers their third win in five games.

Once Dacia got going, ably supported by former MVPs Marlon Basco and Christian Nicdao, Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz squad began pulling away.

Businessman Robert Uy's Warriors had five players in double figures, led by Ruel Balgos, but they still ended up dropping their eighth game in nine outings to remain mired in the cellar.

Over at the Quezon Convention Center in Lucena City, Quezon-Villa Anita dealt Valencia Golden Harvest its second straight loss, 69-55.

Bryan Gahol and Ogie Gumatay combined for 32 points as the Quezonians of Gov. Willie Enverga led from start to finish.

Tamaraws tackle Dolphins today

FAR EASTERN GUNS for its second straight victory against Philippine Christian University as the Filoil-Flying V Preseason Invitational Cup resumes at the Arena in San Juan.

Fresh off its win against the Letran Knights last Wednesday, the Tamaraws are slightly favored in their 4 p.m. date with the Dolphins.

The Knights battle the University of the Philippines Maroons earlier at noon.

Jose Rizal University paces the tournament among top contenders in the coming UAAP and NCAA seasons with three straight wins. La Salle is is second with two wins. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

STANDINGS	W	L
JRU	3	0
La Salle	2	0
UE	1	0
Far Eastern	1	0
San Beda	3	2
National U	1	1
Perpetual	1	1
Letran	1	2
UST	1	2
PCU	1	2
Mapua	1	2
Ateneo	1	3
UP	0	1

GAMES TODAY
(*The Arena, San Juan*)
12 noon—Letran vs UP
2 p.m.—Ateneo vs. National U
4 p.m.—FEU vs. PCU

Pacquiao's. . .

From page A29

Roach said Fortune's things were gone when he returned to Wild Card on Sunday, including what he said was his share in trainer's fee from Pacquiao's fight against Solis and from Israel Vasquez's last fight.

"I got a message from Fortune," Roach said, "and he told me that he's taking all of the trainer fee money for both Pacquiao and Vasquez, and to go 'f- - -' myself."

Pacquiao wrote the check as trainer's fee in the name of Fortune, although Roach flew in from Puerto Rico to be at the Filipino's corner on fight night.

Roach said Fortune even tried to convince Bobby Pacquiao, Manny's younger brother who is training at Wild Card in preparation for his June 9 bout against Mexican Humberto Soto in New York, to leave with him.

Bobby opted to stay put.

"It's too bad that some people change when it comes to money," said Roach. "I was beginning to see that Justin was getting too big for his own head when I was in Puerto Rico training Oscar."

Fortune, a former Australian heavyweight fighter, had expressed his desire to be Pacquiao's main corner man against Solis. *Roy Luarca*

SPORTSWATCH

More Summer Heat entries

TWENTY MORE COCKERS AND BREEDERS from Bicol and the provinces of Quezon, Batangas and Laguna have signed up for the Summer Heat 4-Cock Derby slated May 16, 18 and 21 at Roligon Mega Cockpit. A guaranteed prize of P1.3 million is at stake, according to hosts Aba Badiola, William Chia and Danny Ty. Participants who score two points in the 2-cock elimination rounds on May 16 and 18 will share in the P100,000 prize. The 2-cock finals among qualifiers is on May 21.

Dr. Basilio; 79

DR. GLORIA GONZALES-BASILIO, WIFE OF veteran broadcast executive Rino Basilio and mother of NBN-4 producer-writer Howie, died yesterday after a lingering illness. She was 79. Her body lies in state at Loyola Memorial Chapel in Guadalupe. Interment will be on Sunday morning at the Manila Memorial Park in Parañaque. Basilio is survived by husband Rino and children Howie, Rina, Ronnie and Dr. Lea Basilio.

RACING

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Wind Shore Lady (7), Fire Lady (5), Smart Alec (6), Sava (3)
Race 2—(Tri)—Don Paolo (4), Sweet Xarah (2), Master King (5)
Race 3—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Virgin Empress (5), Twin Star (8), Be Faithful (6), Delicious Decision (2), Grand Game/Meza Native (4)
Race 4—(Qrt/Tri)—Platinum Garden (5), Regal Boom (6), Ultra Rose (2), Mazmagic (4)
Race 5—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Pay to Play (8), Sixela (7), Tiger Boyle (6), Guajido (2), T-Mac (5)
Race 6—(Qrt/Tri)—Aly Dancer (2), Shutter (4), Southern Charm (3), Material World (5)
Race 7—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Glance of the Wind/Mercurio (2), Hussy (1), Rain Dancer (7), Dark Desert (3), Affirmed Queen/Out of Sight (8)
Race 8—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Bundok Peninsula (4), Odyssey (1), Lydia's Magic (5), Constant Queen (3), Spark (8)
Race 9—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Barwanawest (1), Jaded Dancer (3), Nice Legs (4), Monalisa (2), Hickham (6), Alexis Magic (5)

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Trillanes

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with the METRO candidates led by MANILA'S FRED LIM

Loudest golf roar may not be Tiger's

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FLORIDA—TIGER Woods no longer is the most daunting name at The Players Championship. Andrea joined the strongest field in golf on Wednesday.

That was the name assigned to the first storm of the year, off the coast of northeast Florida and arriving just in time to rain on the US PGA Tour's parade. After all, one reason the tour moved its flagship event from March to May was to avoid the kind of wet weather that has caused the tournament to end on Monday for three of the last six years.

WOODS AFP

"Welcome to sunny, dry, warm Florida," commissioner Tim Finchem said on Wednesday. "We never said it doesn't rain in May. We just said the patterns are different, and it's not going to rain as much."

Players won't be the only ones tested when The Players begins on Thursday with the deepest field of the year on a refurbished Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass for $9 million, the biggest purse in the golf.

Sawgrass is nothing like it was last year, when Stephen Ames blew away the competition by closing with a 67 for a six-shot victory.

Tired of a little rain leaving small rivers in the middle of the golf course, the tour spent more than $12 million to make the famed Stadium Course as close to indoor golf as the game allows.

Every fairway was stripped of its grass and replenished with soil that allows for better drainage. Ditto for the greens, which resembled empty pies shells as workers installed a vacuum under each putting surface and restored the original design, except for a few greens. *AP*

UTAH IN OVERTIME

Jazz take 2-0 lead

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—DERON Williams and Derek Fisher made clutch shots down the stretch to lead Utah to a 127-117 overtime win over Golden State Wednesday in game two of the NBA quarterfinal playoffs.

The best-of-seven series shifts to Oakland, California for games three and four on Friday and Sunday with the Jazz holding a 2-0 lead.

"We are on a mission," said Utah's Carlos Boozer. "We are playing well together and focused."

To advance to the semi-finals, the Warriors will have to win a game here and they let a golden opportunity slip through their fingers.

Trailing 106-100 after a three-pointer by Mehmet Okur with 4:50 to play, the Warriors went on a 12-1 run to take a seemingly comfortable 112-107 lead.

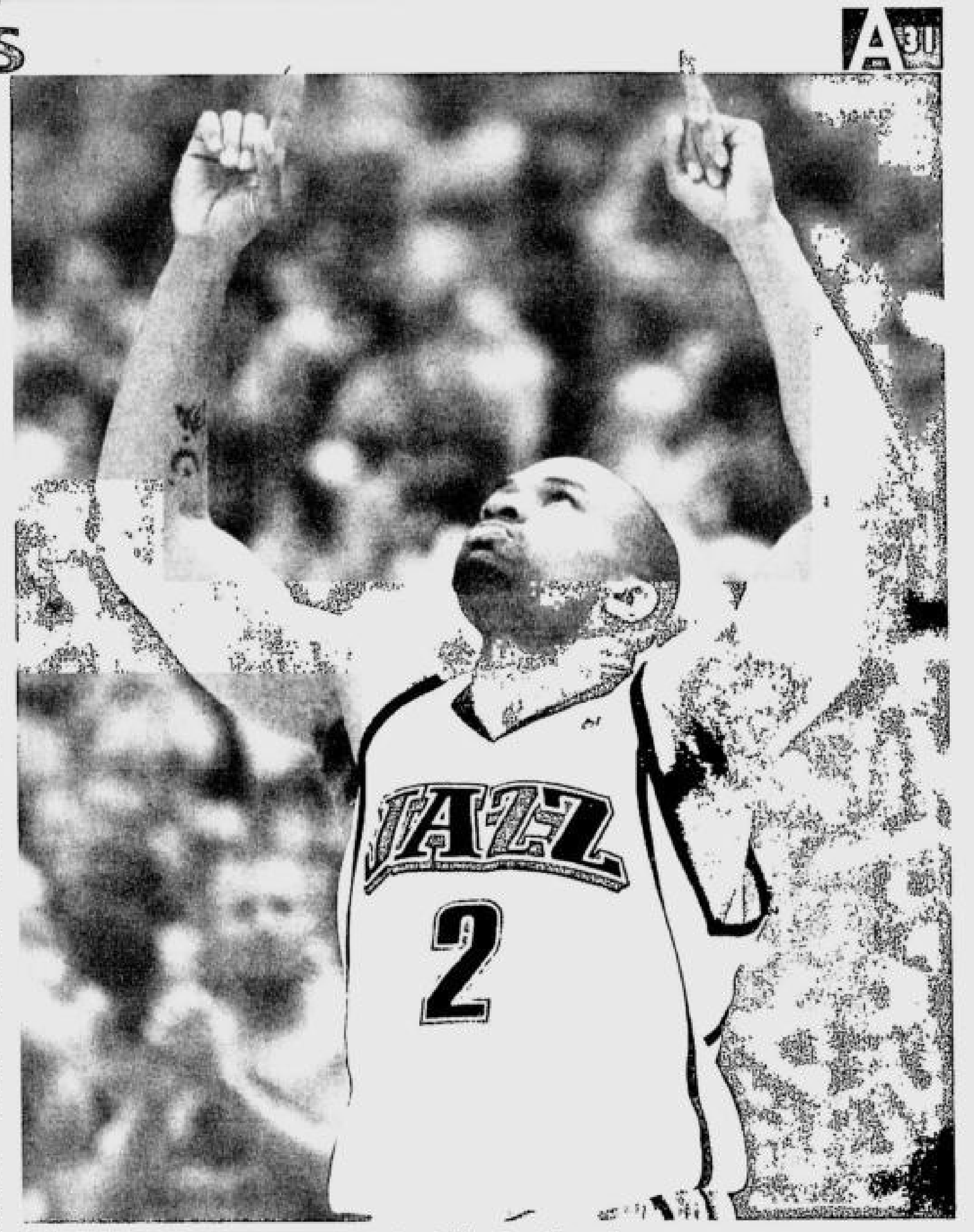
Stephen Jackson and Jason Richardson hit big three-pointers in the run and things definitely seemed to be going Golden State's way when Andris Biedrins hit two line-drive free throws to make it 110-107 with 1:31 left in the fourth.

Matt Marnes hit a jumper from the top of the key to cap Golden State's run with 53 seconds left in the fourth but then the Warriors unraveled.

They missed three of four free throws and Baron Davis stepped on the sideline as Utah closed regulation on a 6-1 run to force overtime.

Williams hit a jumper in the lane with 2.3 seconds to play in the fourth to tie the game at 113-113 and force overtime.

He added a three-pointer in the first minute of overtime as the Jazz took control with some help from Fisher. *AFP*


DEREK Fisher has a lot of reasons to thank The One Above for. AFP

Faith fuels Fisher's hospital-to-court trip

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—DEREK FISHER provided the overtime heroics for the Utah Jazz Wednesday but nothing could match the joy of seeing his daughter come out successful cancer surgery earlier that day.

"It was very serious," said the Jazz guard. "My daughter's life was in jeopardy. She has a form of cancer. It is a very rare disease and we could have lost my little girl if we waited any longer."

The operation was performed in New York in the morning and went off without a hitch.

"It has been unbelievable. My daughter's doing very well. She had a successful operation today in New York," said the three-time NBA champion when he was with the Los Angeles Lakers. "I got off the plane and got into the game. I am speechless."

After the operation, Fisher then flew with his wife, Candace, to Salt Lake City for the Jazz's playoff game against Golden State.

The game was already over half finished by the time Fisher arrived and he drew a loud ovation when he emerged from the tunnel late in the third quarter and took the court against his former Golden State team.

Fisher hit a three-point shot to make it 123-117 with just over a minute left in overtime.

His basket put the game out of reach as Utah went on to win 127-117 and take a 2-0 series lead in their quarter-final series.

"I had to ask my wife for permission to get here," said Fisher.

"My loyalty is always with my family and faith first. That is how I got through this game tonight."

"He has gone through a lot the last few days," said Jazz coach Jerry Sloan.

Fisher's teammate Carlos Boozer said the players were inspired the moment they saw Fisher return to the court.

"What Fish has gone through would be unbearable for lot of people," Boozer said. "He has the heart of champ. He doesn't have to be here. We appreciate it and the fans appreciate it." *AFP*

Devance rejoining Toyota next week

By Jasmine W. Payo

FIL-AMERICAN JOE DEVANCE RETURNS this Tuesday to boost the Toyota Balintawak campaign in the ongoing PBL Unity Cup.

The 6-foot-7 center, the Most Valuable Player of the same tournament last year, left for the United States to attend to his ailing Filipina mother, Mae, who hails from Escalante, Negros Occidental, after missing the PBA draft.

"He loves it here," said PBL chair and Toyota team governor Gil Angeles. "His mom is better now, so he wants to come back. He really wants to play basketball in the Philippines."

Devance was the likely top pick in the 2006 PBA draft but he failed to submit the required documents from foreign-born Filipino players and was stricken off the list of rookie prospects.

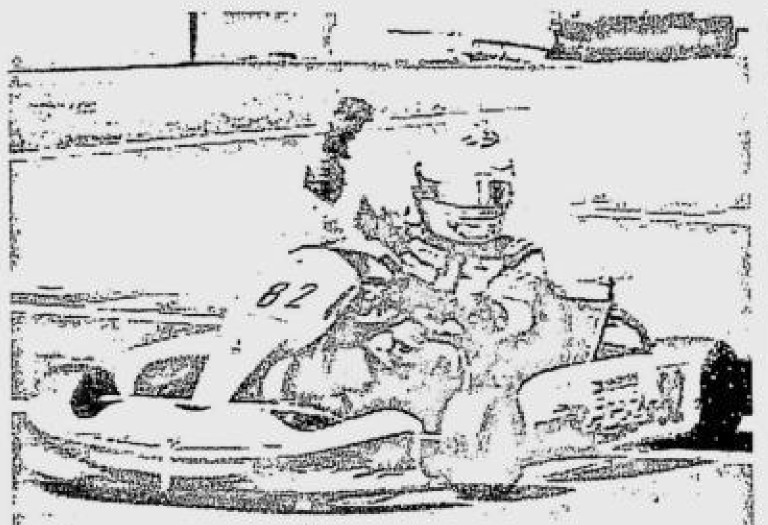
Providing instant impact, Devance towed the then cellar-dwelling Toyota Otis to a runner-up finish last year with averages of 14.5 points, 9.2 rebounds and five assists.

DEVANCE

And he's expected to spark another turnaround for the Road Kings, who placed fourth with a 3-3 win-loss record at the end of the Unity Cup first elimination round last week.

More than the offense he can generate at the low blocks, Devance's biggest impact will be felt on the defensive end.

Devance suited up for NCAA Division 1 school University of Texas El Paso before his Philippine debut last year.



JET Racing's VJ Suba (92) celebrates his victory in the ROK Junior race.

Jet bags four titles

THE JET RACING TEAM PROVED itself to be a force to contend with in the junior divisions when it bagged four titles and two runner-up honors in the recently-concluded third leg of the 2007 Shell Helix Karting Super Series at the Carmona Circuit Philippines.

Second lead drivers Vencer John Suba and Renz Pazcoguin led the big harvest for the Jet Racing Team.

The 12-year-old Suba led the hauling of honors by bagging both the ROK Junior and Formula SL Expert crowns while Pazcoguin prevailed in the close fight to the finish line to claim the Mini ROK title.

Completing the conquest were eight-year-old Christian Gaddi and RR Suba who made it a 1-2 finish for Jet Racing in the Cadet 60 class just 0.252 seconds apart.

The team will have a tune-up training in Thailand late this month or early June in preparation for the kickoff of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship set June 15-17 in Macau.

VJ Suba rose to the occasion after team captain Javi Benitez who was leading the racers had a bumping incident forcing him off the track on the third lap. He wrested the lead after the incident and broke away from the pack as he completed the 20-lap race in 14:25.869 or 7.414 seconds ahead of Tuason Racing-R2R drivers Roby Benito and Juha Turalba.

Benitez, who topped the first two races, managed to get back on track and finish fifth in the race to preserve leadership for the ROK Junior crown and the Junior Karter of the Year award.

Pazcoguin posted a dramatic comeback to carry on from where Franco Reyes left and pulled another big victory over rival team Tuason Racing-R2R.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Maynila, Pilipinas
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project / Brief Description	Supply, delivery, installation and configuration of the following items per BSP's technical specifications, scope of work, terms and conditions: Lot 1 - 778 units PC Desktop Lot 2 - 333 units PC Laptop
Approved Budget for the Contract	Lot 1 - Php 60,684,000.00 Lot 2 - 31,635,000.00
Delivery Period	Within sixty (60) calendar days after receipt of Approved Contract

Prospective bidders should have undertaken a similar requirement awarded and completed within the last five (5) years (Y2002 to present) amounting to at least 50% of the Approved Budget for the Contract of each lot to be bid. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	14 May - 24 May 2007, up to 2:00 p.m. only
2. Pre-Bid Conference	25 May 2007, 10:00 a.m.
3. Opening of Bids	15 June 2007, 9:30 a.m.
4. Bid Evaluation	These shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods allowed in the Implementing Rules & Regulations (IRR)-A of R.A. No. 9184 dated 10 January 2003
5. Post-qualification	
6. Notice of Award	

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P30,342.00 for item 1 and P15,820.00 for item 2 to the BSP Cashier.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) JUAN DE ZUÑIGA, JR.
Chairman

(PDI—May 11, 2007)

BENGUET ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.
Alapang, La Trinidad, Benguet
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Fax No. (074) 422-2848

INVITATION TO A PRE-QUALIFICATION CONFERENCE AND SEALED BIDDING

Interested parties are hereby invited to a **PRE-QUALIFICATION CONFERENCE** and **SEALED BIDDING** for the purchase of the following:

1. Two (2) units TOYOTA AVANZA; OR SUZUKI APV VAN GL 1.6L ENG/SUZUKI APV VAN GA 1.6L GAS ENG.
2. PSION WORK ABOUT PRO WITH BLUETOOTH CAPABILITY OR ITS ALTERNATIVE EQUIVALENT BRAND;
3. FIELD PRINTING SOFTWARE FOR EXTECH THERMAL PRINTER (BLUETOOTH)

BIDDING will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures.

The **PRE-QUALIFICATION CONFERENCE** will be held on **May 21, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.** to all interested parties at the Punctuality Hall, BENECO Building, DPS Compound, Utility Road, Baguio City where the technical description, specifications and other related matters will be discussed. Bid documents are available at the Office of the PBAC Chairman, at the Engineering Department, BENECO, Alapang, La Trinidad, Benguet at P1,000.00 per item (motor vehicle, Psion workabout, field printing software).

SEALED BIDS must be received on or before **May 28, 2007 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Punctuality Hall, BENECO Building, DPS Compound Utility Road, Baguio City. **OPENING OF BIDS** will be on the same date, time and venue.

BENECO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, at any time prior to the contract award and waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid most advantageous to the **BENECO**, without incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

THE PBAC

(PDI – May 7 & 11, 2007)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Room 507-508, 5th Floor Mabini Building, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines
http://www.deped.gov.ph, deped_procurementservice@yahoo.com
Direct Line: 636-65-43 / Telefax: 636-65-42 Trunk Line: 632-13-61 Locals: 2085/2115

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The DepED-Bids and Awards Committee (DepED-BAC) invites eligible bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for printing, delivery, retrieval and warehousing of test booklets and non-classified materials for the SY 2007-2008 NATIONAL CAREER ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION (Re-bid).

Item	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Pre-Bid Conference	Bid Submission deadline/ Opening of Bids	Price of Bidding Documents (non-refundable)	End User
Item 1: Printing, Delivery, Retrieval and Warehousing of Test Booklets for the SY 2007-2008 National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) Item 2: Printing of Non-classified Materials: Examiner's Handbook, NETRC Forms 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, R/CETRE, NETRC-DEPED Sticker Tapes & Name Grid	P22,236,756.76	May 17, 2007 10:00 a.m. Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	May 29, 2007 10:00 a.m. Venue: Bulwagan Ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City	P4,000.00	NETRC

Bids received that exceed the ABC shall be rejected. A bidder must bid for the complete package. Bidders may submit bids before **May 29, 2007** during office hours to the BAC Chairperson through the BAC Secretariat at the address indicated in the next paragraph.

The Bidding Documents shall be available at the BAC Secretariat, Procurement Service, Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Bldg., DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, starting **May 11, 2007** upon payment in cash of the non-refundable fee indicated above.

Bidding shall be conducted in accordance with procedures under R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. Information is also available at **http://www.deped.gov.ph** or **www.procurementservice.org** or call DepED-PS at Telephone Nos. 636-65-42 / 43 or Fax No. 633-93-43.

DepED-BAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, or declare failure of bidding at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected parties.

(Sgd.) RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary and BAC Chairperson

(PDI—May 11, 2007)

SPORTS

So tops Nat'l Juniors; Salvador repeats as champ

By Roy Luarca

WESLEY SO JUST MADE THE DISTINCTION CLEAR. A big gap separates him from the country's other junior players.

Already an International Master at 13, So chalked another entry to his achievements folder by ruling the 2007 National Junior Chess Championship late Wednesday and earning the right to represent the country in the World Juniors slated October in Yerevan, Armenia.

Deftly handling black, So forced James Bulicatin to resign after 42 moves of a Queen's Indian Opening and finished with 8.5 points out of a perfect 9.0 in the event held at the Marketplace Shopping Center in Mandaluyong City.

The incoming high school sophomore of St. Francis of Assisi College-Bacoor, thus distinguished himself as the youngest national junior champion ever, adding it to his historic National Open triumph and Chess Olympiad stint last year.

"I was able to extract the victory only in the endgame," said So, who pocketed P15,000 for his victory, in Filipino. "I was up by a pawn and had two passed pawns."

Cebuano Kim Steven Yap foiled National Master Julius Joseph de Ramos' title bid by winning their ninth round match. They tied for second with 7.5 points each.

In the girls division, La Salle's Aices Salvador repeated as solo champion and also earned a trip to Yerevan.

Salvador, the 17-year-old business management student, pounced on the opening miscue by Asian Games campaigner Jedara Docena to hack out the win in their Pirc opening and retain the title with eight points.

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RP backs beach sepak

By Marc Anthony Reyes

AFTER BEACH VOLLEYBALL, beach football and beach frisbee, now comes beach sepak takraw.

The rules of the beach version of the little-known Asian sport—which is essentially volleyball using head and feet—will be finalized during a meeting in Bangkok to be attended by the Philippines' sepak takraw president, Mario Tanchangco.

Played with three players on each side indoors, beach sepak takraw will have only two players who will be required to wear goggles.

"The first concern is the sand, so players will have goggles when playing," Tanchangco said.

He added that the athletes' attire is also a major issue because Muslim countries do not want players to wear bikinis, the standard uniform in beach volley and beach football.

"They want cycling shorts instead of bikinis," Tanchangco said.

Tanchangco said the Philippines is hoping to host the 2010 Asian championships in Boracay. "We need trial tournaments," he said.

PERFORMANCE, SAFETY, STYLE

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In 2006, the Suzuki Grand Vitara was reborn, ushering in a new generation of Suzuki vehicles built to satisfy the needs of people who live active lifestyles. Its complete transformation leads the Suzuki brand to new levels of refinement and style at a value-packed price. For 2007, the Suzuki Grand Vitara is sure to impress on challenging off-road trails and drives around town, with a powerful 2.7-liter, V6 engine, advanced chassis design and available four-wheel drive, an extensive list of safety features and interior amenities and sleek styling - inside and out.

Standard DOHC V6 Power and Available Four-Wheel-Drive Traction

The standard 2.7-liter, V6, 24-valve DOHC engine delivers 185 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 250 Nm at 4,500 rpm. The engine gives the Grand Vitara a tow rating of 3,000 pounds - enough to haul light recreational boats, personal watercraft or motorcycles ideally, Suzuki motorcycles.

The Grand Vitara is fitted with an electronically controlled five-speed automatic transmission. Very capable off-road, it is equipped with an excellent approach, break-over and departure angles, and 7.9 inches of ground clearance, (7.4 inches for rear-wheel-drive models).

The Grand Vitara also offers a sophisticated available Four-Mode full-time four-wheel-drive system with two-speed transfer case. On the road, drivers have the security of full-time four-wheel drive, and when traveling off-road, drivers can use an interior-mounted switch to engage the center differential lock. If the going is really slow, the driver can select the Low (4L Lock) mode for low-speed power and traction.

Advanced Structural Engineering and Chassis Design

All Grand Vitara models feature a new, lightweight yet rigid unibody construction enhanced with a built-in ladder frame to offer the best of both worlds - a refined on-road ride and the rugged off-road performance expected from Suzuki SUVs. The structure is teamed with four-wheel independent suspension - MacPherson struts in front and a multi-link design in the rear - to provide precise handling both on-road and off-road. The Grand Vitara also features large, vented front disc brakes and rear drum brakes and power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering.

Uncompromised Safety Features

Every Grand Vitara model is fitted with active safety features, including ABS with electronic brake-force distribution (EBD) and Electronic Stability Program (ESP)1, including traction control. The ESP uses a variety of electronic sensors to measure vehicle speed, steering wheel angle and yaw. This information is sent to a central controller that can intervene as needed. Under certain conditions, such as when unintended oversteer or understeer is detected, the system can apply individual brakes and reduce engine torque to help the driver maintain the proper cornering line.

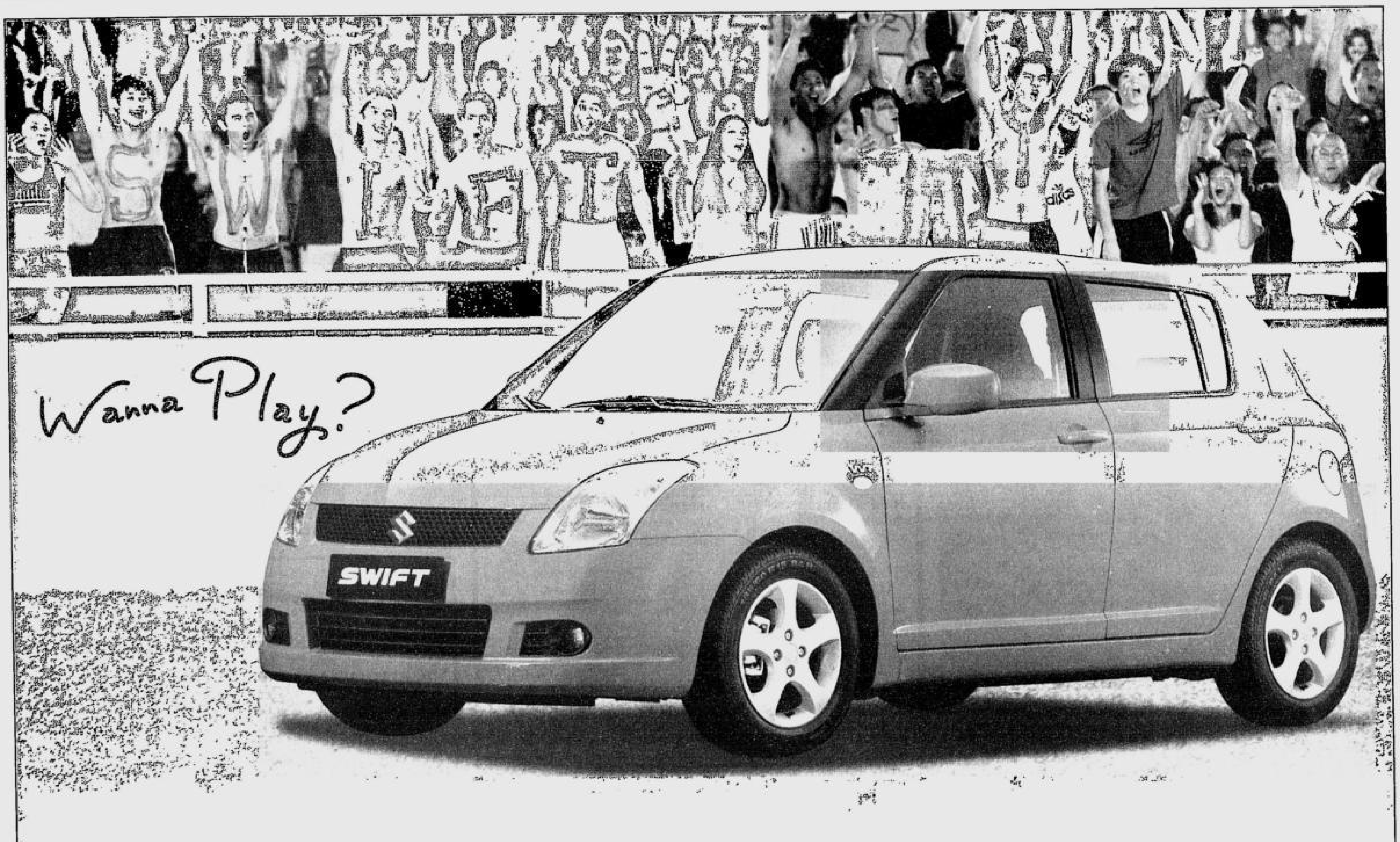
Together with the traction control system, the ESP helps ensure vehicle stability and optimum cornering, handling in take off or acceleration, emergency maneuvers, or driving on slippery road surfaces.

The Grand Vitara also features six airbags as standard equipment - driver and front passenger seat-mounted side-impact airbags supplemental restraint system (SRS), advanced dual-stage front airbag SRS, advanced weight-sensing front passenger airbag SRS and front and rear side-curtain airbags.

The three-point driver and front passenger seat belts feature shoulder height adjustment. In the rear seat, each passenger is provided with a three-point seat belt system and a headrest. The rear child-seat LATCH system (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children), along with rear-door child safety locks, are designed to help protect young rear-seat passengers.

The innovative stamped steel unibody with built-in ladder frame provides comprehensive protection, with features such as a reinforced cabin with the added safety of a head-impact protection padding and front and rear side-impact door beams designed to help maintain the integrity of the passenger compartment.

In the event of a collision with a pedestrian, the hood is designed to absorb some of the impact and help protect against serious head injuries. The front end and the bumper use energy-absorbing materials to help reduce the possibility of serious leg injuries.



Global Car
SWIFT

It's playtime! Go sporty. Get young. Get behind the wheels of the SUZUKI SWIFT. Take a cut away from the ordinary with its eye-catching looks, sparkling performance, nimble handling, and an upbeat interior that's as practical as it is stylish.

Drive now and have some serious fun.

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SUZUKI AUTO EDSA
Pilhino Sales Corporation
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SUZUKI AUTO KALOOKAN
Matrix Motor Corporation
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365-3011 / 365-7796
SUZUKI AUTO MANILA BAY
Wheels, Inc.
556-1485 / 556-1487
SUZUKI AUTO MAKATI
Heidelberg Motor Corporation
816-4097 / 810-1736 / 810-1737
SUZUKI AUTO QUEZON AVE.
Sunny Motors Group, Inc.
374-39-11 / 411-27-20
SUZUKI AUTO SHAW
The Shaw Motor
Plaza Corp.
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PROVINCIAL
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SUZUKI AUTO DAGUPAN
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Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** • Assistant Editor **Corrie S. Narisma**
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) **E-mail:** business@inquirer.com.ph

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Exports still gaining, up 11% in March

Strong numbers indicate RP no longer as dependent on US, Neda says

By Michelle V. Remo

EXPORTS JUMPED 10.6 PERCENT TO $4.566 BILLION IN March from a year ago, as global demand for electronics, the country's major export earner, remained strong.

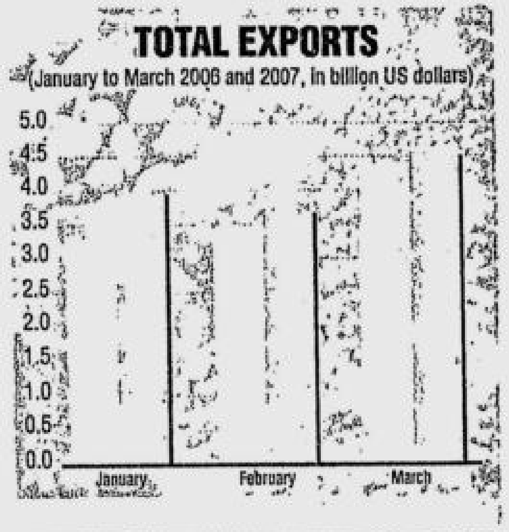
This brought the country's exports for the first quarter of the year to $12.27 billion—up 13.1 percent from that of the same period last year.

The National Economic and Development Authority said the performance of the export sector in the first quarter proved that the country was on track to meet the exports growth target of at least 11 percent despite projected slowdown in the economy of the United States, the Philippines' largest export market.

"We are meeting the 11-percent exports growth target for the year," said Romulo Neri, director general of the National Economic and Development Authority. "This is because, although it is still the biggest market, our dependence on the United States is not ... as heavy as it used to be."

According to the exports report released yesterday by the National Statistics

EXPORTS/ B7


TOTAL EXPORTS
(January to March 2006 and 2007, in billion US dollars)

Sell as a bloc, DOF tells gov't shareholders of Meralco

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE HAS URGED the various government entities holding stakes in Manila Electric Co. to jointly sell their shares if they hope to attract a higher price for the state-owned equity assets.

The national government, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), the Social Security System (SSS), and the Land Bank of the Philippines have a combined stake of 29 percent in Meralco. The Privatization Management Office has another 12 percent.

"It makes sense, not only for the government, but also for any shareholder, to sell (as) a big group," said a ranking official from the Department of Finance in charge of privatization.

The statement was in response to speculation that the GSIS might again make a move on its own, without consulting the other government entities. The GSIS earlier sold its 7-percent stake in San Miguel Corp. (SMC), generating P14 billion in revenue, in an apparent disregard of the DOF's preference for a joint sale of the government's shares in SMC.

The national government has close to 25-percent stake in SMC. The SSS has 7 percent. The DOF earlier said the national government alone could generate P50 billion from the sale of its SMC shares.

The source said GSIS could have earned more if it sold its SMC shares together with the national government and the SSS. It added that GSIS could generate more revenues from its investments in Meralco if it would engage in a joint sale with other government entities.

According to DOF estimates, the government could generate about P5 billion from a joint sale of Meralco shares.

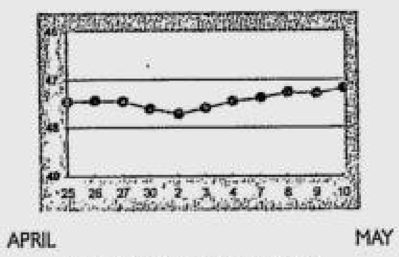
The government has already made a big leap toward reaching its target of generating P25.7 billion from privatization efforts this year. In February, the government sold its 46-percent stake in Philippine Telecommunications Investments Corp. for P25.2 billion.

But the DOF said it was hoping to collect more from privatization to compensate for the Bureau of Internal Revenue's shortfall in tax collection.

SELL/ B3

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



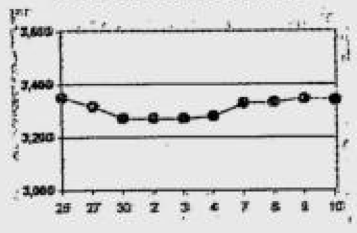
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P47.18 = $1

As of 5 p.m., May 10, 2007

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Shares close 0.10% lower

SHARE PRICES YESTERDAY CLOSED 0.10 percent lower as investors took profits after a four-day upturn, dealers said.

Investors were also cautious ahead of the midterm elections on May 14, they added.

The composite index lost 3.77 points at 3,342.21, after moving between 3,337.90 and 3,348.04. The broader all-share index slipped 1.33 points to 2,128.34.

Gainers outnumbered losers 65 to 52, with 53 stocks unchanged.

A total of 4.05 billion shares worth P4.77 billion ($225.14 million) were traded. The peso traded at 47.20 to the dollar. *AFP*

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Discover the freedom of going on an adventure any time you feel like it with **Timberland Sports and Nature Club**, an exclusive membership club where your whole family can enjoy various indoor, outdoor and "nature-based" amenities, as well as facilities for sports, recreation and relaxation. For inquiries on club membership, please call 927-9995.

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Banyan Ridge HLURB LTS # 11957
Mandala Residential Farm Estates HLURB LTS # 10476

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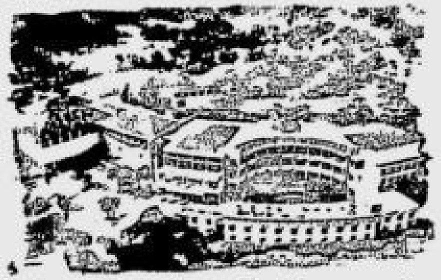

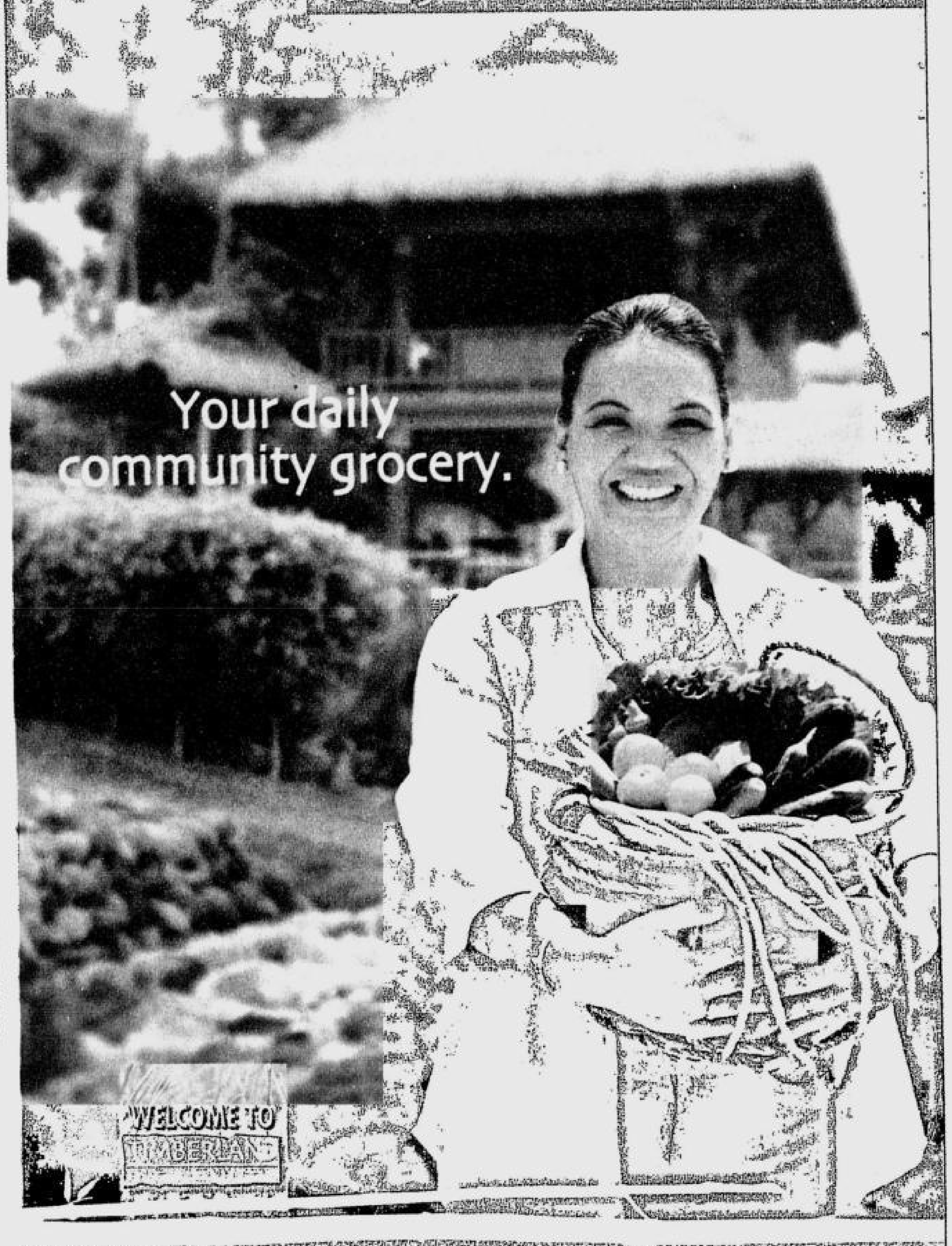

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You are cordially invited to our Investors' Coctails, March 27, 2007 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Timberland Heights.

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Conglomerates report hefty Q1 profit growth

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

PANGILINAN

ZOBEL

PHILIPPINE CONGLOMERATES REported hefty earnings growth in the first quarter this year, driven mainly by investments in banking, property and utilities.

Ayala Corp., the country's largest conglomerate, posted an 80 percent jump in profit to P5.6 billion in the first three months of the year from year ago, due to the strong operating results of major business units and capital gains from share sales.

Ayala's Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), whose first quarter profit grew 28 percent. In the same period, its revenue rose 26 percent driven by non-interest income from foreign exchange and securities trading. BPI's net interest income increased by 11 percent.

Property arm Ayala Land posted 10 percent growth in earnings to P1.3 billion during the quarter, boosted by gains from the sale of Oakwood Premiere to the Ascott Group and brisk sales from residential projects.

"We are optimistic about our growth prospects ... Each of our business units continues to be in a strong financial position and is pursuing their respective strategic initiatives to set the platform for sustained growth in the coming years," Ayala president and chief operating officer Fernando Zobel de Ayala said.

He said the conglomerate had earmarked P47 billion for capital expenditures this year. Last year, Ayala group's capex was P42 billion.

In the meantime, Metro Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC), the flagship firm of Hong Kong conglomerate First Pacific, said its net income jumped 129 percent to P110.8 million in the first quarter from year-ago's P48.4 million, mainly due to contributions from newly acquired utility firm Maynilad Water Services and the improved performance of its real-estate arm, Landco Pacific Corp.

Total revenues surged 308 percent to P1.13 billion in the first quarter from P277.7 million in the same period last year.

DMCI-MPIC Water Co., the joint venture with DMCI Holdings that runs Maynilad, contributed P136.3 million to MPIC's first quarter profit. The amount represents MPIC's share in the joint venture's profit of P440 million.

Landco, for its part, pitched in P12 million to the MPIC coffers. The amount represents a big improvement from last year's P2.6 million and the increase was attributed to strong sales generated by its leisure and resort projects.

The property firm's sales rose 17 percent to P222.1 million from P189.7 million last year.

One of Landco's projects launched during the year was Hacienda Escudero—which was so far its most ambitious development project.

Landco also formed a joint-venture with ATR KimEng Land for the development of an urban residential community project in Metro Manila, the 9.7-hectare project in Sucat, Parañaque.

MPIC chair Manuel Pangilinan said the conglomerate would focus on infrastructure and the delivery of healthcare services through its investments in hospitals.

Pangilinan is also optimistic that the consolidation of Medical Doctors Inc. into its portfolio by the second half of the year will help sustain MPIC's profit performance this year.

The MPIC chief said he was expecting recurring net profit this year to grow to between about P450 million.

Aboitiz Equity Ventures, the holding company of the Aboitiz family, ended the first quarter with a 68-percent jump in net income to P1.08 billion with its banking units delivering

CONGLOMERATES/ B4

Republic of the Philippines
Regional Trial Court
Branch 61
MARCELO B. FERNAN PALACE OF JUSTICE
Dakit, Bogo, Cebu

IN RE: PETITION FOR LAND REGISTRATION OF LOT 50114 IDENTICAL TO LOT 1 OF THE CONSOLIDATION - SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LOT 1562 & 1564 OF SAN REMIGIO CAD. 748 - D

LRC CASE NO. 61-0062-LRC

LRA RECORD NO. N-78095

SPOUSES PABLITO OLIVAR AND ROSALINDA OLIVAR
Petitioners.

AMENDED ORDER

A verified Petition for Registration of Lot 50114 has been filed with this Court by the Spouses Pablito and Rosalinda Olivar, assisted by their counsel Atty. Norma T. Garciano, praying that upon due notice, publication and hearing, the land herein described be brought under the operations of the Property Registration Decree and to have the title registered and confirmed in the name of the herein applicants / petitioners.

That the said parcel of land, subject of this application is hereto described as follows:

> *"A parcel of land, Lot 50114, San Remigio Cadastre, 748 - D (Identical to Lot 1, of the consolidation - subdivision plan of lot 1562 & 1564) located at Punta, San Remigio, Cebu, containing an area of FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE (4,669) square meters."*

That the full names and complete addresses of the adjoining lot owners are as follows:

North : Lot 1562 – Part owned by Rosalio Flores of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
East : Foreshore by Municipality of San Remigio, Cebu;
South : Lot 1562 – part & 1564 owned by Milagros Enguell of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu; and
West : Barangay Road

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, it is hereby set for initial hearing on SEPTEMBER 06, 2007 at 8:30 in the morning, before this Court located at Marcelo B. Fernan Palace of Justice, Dakit, Bogo, Cebu, at which date, time and place designated all persons who may have interest in the above – entitled proceedings may appear and show cause why, if any, why the petition should be or not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published for TWO (2) consecutive issues in the Official Gazette, National Printing Office, Diliman, Quezon City and ONCE (1) in the newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Cebu, all at the petitioner's expense.

Let copies of this Order be posted in the respective Bulletin Boards of this Court, Municipal Hall of San Remigio, Cebu, and Barangay Hall of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu.

Furnish copies of this Order to 1.) The Register of Deeds for the Province of Cebu; 2.) Honorable Administrator, Land Registration Authority, Quezon City; 3.) Director, Bureau of Lands; 4.) Land Management Bureau; 5.) Regional Director, DENR, Region VII, Banilad, Cebu City; 6.) Solicitor General, Makati City; 7.) Director, CENRO, Luyang, Carmen, Cebu; and 8.) Office of the Municipal Mayor, Borbon, Cebu.

Furnish also copies of this Order to the petitioners and their counsel as well as to all adjoining owners.

SO ORDERED.
Bogo, Cebu
March 07, 2007.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO D. MARIGOMEN
Executive Presiding Judge

Copies furnished:

1.) LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY
East Avenue corner NIA Road, Quezon City
2.) SOLICITOR GENERAL
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City
3.) THE CHIEF
LAND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DENR, Luyang, Carmen, Cebu
4.) REGISTER OF DEEDS
Province of Cebu, Capitol, Cebu City
5.) THE DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF LANDS, Quezon City
6.) REGIONAL DIRECTOR
DENR – Region VII, Banilad, Cebu City
7.) THE DIRECTOR
CENRO, Luyang, Carmen, Cebu
8.) MUNICIPAL MAYOR
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR
San Remigio, Cebu
9.) ATTY. NORMA GARCIANO
Room 10 PHILBET Lending Building,
286 Don Gil Garcia Extension, Capitol Site
Cebu City
10.) SPOUSES PABLITO OLIVAR of Talisay, Punta, San Remigio, Cebu
11.) ROSALIO FLORES of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
12.) MILAGROS ENGUELL of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu,
13.) BARANGAY CAPTAIN, Punta, San Remigio, Cebu

(PDI—May 11, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Regional Trial Court
Branch 61
MARCELO B. FERNAN PALACE OF JUSTICE
Dakit, Bogo, Cebu

IN RE: PETITION FOR LAND REGISTRATION OF LOT 50115 IDENTICAL TO LOT 2 OF THE CONSOLIDATION - SUBDIVISION PLAN OF LOT 1562 & 1564 OF SAN REMIGIO CAD. 748 - D

LRC CASE NO. 61-0063-LRC

LRA RECORD NO. N-78093

SPOUSES JAY L. OLIVAR AND FLOR A. OLIVAR
Petitioners.

AMENDED ORDER

A verified Petition for Registration of Lot 50115 has been filed with this Court by the Spouses Pablito and Rosalinda Olivar, assisted by their counsel Atty. Norma T. Garciano, praying that upon due notice, publication and hearing, the land herein described be brought under the operations of the Property Registration Decree and to have the title registered and confirmed in the name of the herein applicants / petitioners.

That the said parcel of land, subject of this application is hereto described as follows:

> *"A parcel of land, Lot 50115, San Remigio Cadastre, 748 - D (Identical to Lot 2, of the consolidation - subdivision plan of lot 1562 & 1564) located at Punta, San Remigio, Cebu, containing an area of SIX HUNDRED (600) square meters."*

That the full names and complete addresses of the adjoining lot owners are as follows:

North : Lot 1562 – Part owned by Pablito Olivar of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
East : Pablito Olivar of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
South : Milagros Enguell of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu; and
West : Noel Aguilar of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, it is hereby set for initial hearing on SEPTEMBER 06, 2007 at 8:30 in the morning, before this Court located at Marcelo B. Fernan Palace of Justice, Dakit, Bogo, Cebu, at which date, time and place designated all persons who may have interest in the above – entitled proceedings may appear and show cause why, if any, why the petition should be or not be granted.

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6.) REGIONAL DIRECTOR
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11.) ROSALIO FLORES of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
12.) MILAGROS ENGUELL of Punta, San Remigio, Cebu;
13.) BARANGAY CAPTAIN, Punta, San Remigio, Cebu

(PDI—May 11, 2007)

UBP Q1 income reaches ₱1.6B

By Michelle V. Remo

UNION BANK OF THE Philippines yesterday said its first quarter net income more than doubled to P1.63 billion from year-ago's P790 million.

The bank said the profit growth was made possible by the rise in revenues from all its banking businesses.

UnionBank's first-quarter performance is expected to boost its industry ranking in terms of assets. In 2006, the bank landed on the ninth spot in terms of value of assets owned.

Income gained from interests on loans rose 54.6 percent year-on-year, while income from trading operations grew by 57 percent. Income in the form of service fees and commissions rose by 55.6 percent.

The bank said it tripled the loans it granted to P39.7 billion in March from only P13.3 billion in the same month a year ago. Despite this, the bank said, its nonperforming loans ratio improved in the first quarter to 3.5 percent from 4.9 percent in end-2006.

UnionBank yesterday concluded an offering of additional shares through the stock market, raising P4.5 billion in additional revenues.

Justo A. Ortiz, UnionBank chair and chief executive officer, said that proceeds from the sale of additional shares would help the bank improve its capital adequacy ratio and prepare it for the implementation of Basel II, which requires banks to raise capital to support liabilities.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of May 10, 2007)

52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW	STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
		BANKS					
17.5	5	Asiatrust Development Bank Inc.	12	12.25	12	12.25	19,500
73	42.5	Bank of the Philippine Islands	65.5	65.5	64.5	64.5	2,480,300
65.5	30.5	Banco de Oro Universal Bank	59.5	60	59	60	1,279,800
935	630	China Banking Corp.	890	900	890	900	520
20	18.18	Citystate Savings Bank	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	400
119	60	Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	103	103	102	102	103,770
0.63	0.36	Export and Industry Bank Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.52	0.54	2,520,000
68.5	29	Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	61.5	61.5	61	61.5	1,325,700
55	30.5	Philippine National Bank	46.5	46.5	46.5	46.5	70,000
68	38.5	Philippine Savings Bank	58	64	58	64	14,700
72	40	Philippine Bank of Communications	51	51	51	51	500
39.57	13.04	Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.	28.5	29	28	28.5	566,500
90	41	Security Bank Corp.	85	86.5	85	86.5	293,100
65.77	40.55	Union Bank of the Philippines	60.5	62.5	60.5	62	7,792,000
		OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
3.81	1.72	ATR KimEng Financial Corp.	3	3	3	3	20,000
0.85	0.6	Bankard Inc.	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	100,000
7.7	1.5	CitisecOnline.com Inc.	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	68,000
39	27	First Metro Investment Corp.	37.5	37.5	37.5	37.5	10,000
2,000.00	1,500.00	Manulife Financial Corp.	1,650.00	1,650.00	1,650.00	1,650.00	250
5	4.15	National Reinsurance Corp. of the Phils.	4.45	4.45	4.35	4.4	11,390,000
2.4	0.97	PCI Leasing and Finance Inc.	2.4	2.4	2.38	2.38	185,000
1,005.00	200	The Philippine Stock Exchange Inc.	555	580	555	580	3,140
2,250.00	1,805.00	Sun Life Financial Inc.	2,110.00	2,110.00	2,110.00	2,110.00	90
1.94	1.02	Vantage Corp.	1.88	1.88	1.86	1.86	2,941,000
		ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
0.37	0.16	East Asia Power Resources Corp.	0.3	0.32	0.3	0.32	1,020,000
62.5	41	First Gen Corp.	59	60.5	59	59.5	2,599,400
82.5	40.5	First Phil. Holdings Corp.	75	76	75	76	594,900
12.75	6.6	Manila Water Company Inc.	12	12.25	12	12.25	541,800
81	13	Manila Electric Company A	77	81	77	80.5	512,600
82	20.25	Manila Electric Company B	76.5	81	76.5	80.5	1,313,200
6.8	4.1	PNOC Energy Development Corp.	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.8	3,199,000
5.7	3.35	Petron Corp.	5.2	5.2	5	5.1	5,479,000
2.2	1.6	Salcon Power Corp.	2.1	2.18	2.1	2.18	74,000
1.62	0.89	Trans-Asia Oil and Energy Dev't Corp.	1.42	1.44	1.42	1.44	187,000
		FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
5	2.85	Alaska Milk Corp.	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	445,000
2.95	1.88	Alliance Tuna International Inc.	2.12	2.14	2.1	2.1	566,000
3.4	1.24	CADP Group Corp.	1.84	1.84	1.84	1.84	5,000
28.5	19.5	Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	27	27	26.5	26.5	20,000
61	30	Jollibee Foods Corp.	54	54	53	53.5	813,700
1.62	0.69	RFM Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.34	222,000
4.05	2.34	Roxas Holdings	2.44	2.44	2.42	2.42	175,000
67.5	61	San Miguel Corp. A	66	67	65.5	66.5	385,700
84	68	San Miguel Corp. B	76	77.5	76	77.5	106,700
0.51	0.19	Swift Foods Inc.	0.37	0.38	0.37	0.38	220,000
24	15.75	Universal Robina Corp.	16.25	16.5	16	16.25	1,514,400
		CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
5.17	1.07	EEI Corp.	4.85	4.85	4.8	4.8	4,184,000
4.5	1.06	Fortune Cement Corp.	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.4	618,000
9.2	4.2	Holcim Philippines Inc.	9	9	8.9	9	1,932,000
7	1.1	Republic Cement Corp.	5.9	6	5.2	5.9	678,000
2	0.245	Southeast Asia Cement Holdings Inc.	1.8	1.84	1.76	1.84	8,485,000
6.3	1.42	Chemrez Technologies Inc.	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.2	5,809,000
1.2	0.9	Interphil Laboratories Inc. B	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	100,000
0.82	0.5	Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	60,000
7.5	5.1	Panasonic Manufacturing Phils. Corp.	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	1,000
0.43	0.06	Picop Resources Inc.	0.27	0.3	0.27	0.3	31,940,000
		HOLDING FIRMS					
4.05	1.7	A. Soriano Corp.	3.7	3.75	3.7	3.7	150,000
0.0925	0.022	AJO.net Holdings Inc.	0.0675	0.07	0.0675	0.07	15,600,000
0.68	0.17	APC Group Inc.	0.56	0.68	0.56	0.66	114,540,000
3.6	1.4	ATN Holdings Inc. A	1.84	1.84	1.84	1.84	13,000
0.018	0.005	Abacus Cons. Res. and Hold'gs Inc. A	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.011	86,800,000
0.019	0.0065	Abacus Cons. Res. and Hold'gs Inc. B	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	10,000,000
9.7	4.85	Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.8	1,492,000
7.3	3.5	Alliance Global Group Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	948,000
1.04	0.45	Alsons Consolidated Resources Inc.	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.79	230,000
2.26	0.83	Anglo-Philippine Holdings Corp.	2.24	2.26	2.2	2.26	17,610,000
680	327.5	Ayala Corp.	600	600	595	595	113,750
6.9	0.7	Balabac Resources and Holdings Co. Inc.	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	39,000
4.45	0.97	Benpres Holdings Corp.	3.8	3.85	3.8	3.8	7,258,000
8.5	3.25	DMCI Holdings Inc.	8.4	8.5	8.2	8.2	3,897,000
1.3	0.7	F and J Prince Holdings Corp. A	1.04	1.06	1.04	1.06	70,000
1.02	1	F and J Prince Holdings Corp. B	1	1	1	1	60,000
6	2.55	Filinvest Development Corp.	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.2	71,000
0.42	0.13	Forum Pacific Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	30,000
14.5	5.3	JG Summit Holdings Inc.	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	912,500
0.43	0.185	MEDCO Holdings Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	10,000
12.5	0.88	Magnum Holdings Inc.	11.25	11.5	11	11.25	441,100
4.3	0.19	Multitech Investments Corp.	3.9	4.3	3.9	4.3	13,724,000
5.4	1.06	PAL Holdings Inc.	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	32,000
1.26	0.8	Prime Media Holdings Inc.	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.97	10,000
0.48	0.155	Prime Orion Philippines Inc.	0.42	0.44	0.42	0.44	14,500,000
407.5	205	SM Investments Corp.	372.5	372.5	367.5	370	74,600
0.51	0.115	Sinophil Corp.	0.35	0.38	0.35	0.38	38,170,000
1.38	0.68	South China Resources Inc.	1.34	1.38	1.3	1.3	836,000
0.41	0.05	Uniol Resources and Holdings Co. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	500,000
0.24	0.08	Wellex Industries Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.17	7,500,000
0.55	0.15	Zeus Holdings Inc.	0.36	0.39	0.36	0.39	420,000
		PROPERTY					
2.16	0.75	A Brown Company Inc.	1.4	1.42	1.4	1.42	510,000
18.75	10.25	Ayala Land Inc.	18.5	18.5	18.25	18.25	8,913,000
1.72	0.95	Belle Corp.	1.32	1.36	1.32	1.36	5,135,000
3.1	1.18	C and P Homes Inc.	2.55	2.55	2.5	2.5	390,000
4.5	1.8	Cebu Holdings Inc.	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4	86,000
2.9	1	Cityland Development Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	30,000
0.54	0.24	Crown Equities Inc.	0.47	0.48	0.46	0.48	2,800,000
0.54	0.165	Cyber Bay Corp.	0.5	0.52	0.49	0.51	8,050,000
0.31	0.14	EIB Realty Developers Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	10,000
3.1	0.64	Edsa Properties Holdings Inc.	2.85	2.85	2.8	2.85	668,000
0.99	0.44	Empire East Land Holdings Inc.	0.78	0.79	0.78	0.79	4,660,000
0.165	0.027	Ever Gotesco Res and Hold'gs Inc.	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	27,020,000
1.12	0.38	Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.77	0.79	0.77	0.78	4,280,000
2.04	0.93	Filinvest Land Inc.	1.72	1.72	1.68	1.7	57,327,000
3.35	2.04	Highlands Prime Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	300,000
0.016	0.0038	Interport Resources Corp. A	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	17,000,000
0.016	0.005	Interport Resources Corp. B	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	74,800,000
0.69	0.2	Kuok Phil. Properties Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.42	0.43	10,500,000
0.99	0.18	MRC Allied Industries Inc.	0.75	0.75	0.73	0.73	1,340,000
0.034	0.011	Marsteel Consolidated Inc. A	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	2,700,000
0.038	0.012	Marsteel Consolidated Inc. b	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	800,000
3.95	1.20	Megaworld Corp.	3.5	3.55	3.5	3.55	19,959,000
6.4	1.5	Metro Pacific Investments Corp.	4.4	4.4	4.35	4.35	127,000
0.26	0.1	Phil. Estates Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	300,000
0.87	0.25	Philippine Realty and Holdings Corp.	0.58	0.59	0.58	0.59	2,470,000
23	8.6	Robinson Land Corp.	18.25	18.25	18	18.25	539,900
6	1.48	SM Development Corp.	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.8	5,210,000
13	6.9	SM Prime Holdings Inc.	12	12	12	12	6,794,000
0.96	0.51	Suntrust Home Developers Inc.	0.67	0.67	0.66	0.66	250,000
0.27	0.06	Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.2	0.19	0.195	5,140,000
1.74	0.3	Zipporah Realty Holdings Inc.	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.34	18,976,000
		MEDIA					
31.5	[illegible]	[illegible]	30.5	31.5	30	31.5	[illegible]
		TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
2.12	1.1	Digital Telecommunications Phils. Inc.	1.68	1.7	1.68	1.68	2,318,000
1,445.00	820	Globe Telecom Inc.	1,370.00	1,370.00	1,360.00	1,365.00	448,630
2,820.00	1,700.00	Phil. Long Distance Telephone Co.	2,550.00	2,560.00	2,550.00	2,555.00	55,240
7.9	3.1	Pilipino Telephone Corp.	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	590,000
		INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
0.39	0.155	Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	2,240,000
9	2	Diversified Financial Network Inc.	8.5	9	8.5	8.7	85,000
7.6	2	IPVG Corp.	6.9	7.1	6.8	6.9	1,601,000
0.075	0.046	ISM Communications Corp.	0.06	0.0625	0.06	0.0625	8,000,000
2.9	1.4	Ionics Inc.	2.38	2.38	2.3	2.3	809,000
1.84	1.12	Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.4	1.44	1.4	1.44	457,000
0.06	0.025	PhilWeb.Com Inc.	0.046	0.049	0.045	0.049	266,700,000
5.8	1	Transpacific Broadband Group Int'l. Inc.	2.22	2.28	2.22	2.24	120,000
		TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
1.88	1.14	Aboitiz Transport System Corp.	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	137,000
6.8	2.5	Asian Terminals Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.3	519,000
32	12.5	Int'l Container Terminal Services Inc.	27.5	27.5	26.5	27	4,774,000
2.14	0.85	Keppel Philippines Marine Inc.	2	2	1.94	1.98	930,000
1.74	0.8	Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.28	1.28	1.18	1.18	5,344,000
		HOTEL & LEISURE					
4.25	1.26	Leisure and Resorts World Corp.	4.1	4.25	4.05	4.1	3,726,000
4	2.7	Manila Jockey Club Inc.	3.8	4	3.8	4	47,000
0.45	0.18	Premiere Entertainment Productions Inc.	0.4	0.45	0.4	0.43	7,570,000
1.2	0.42	Waterfront Philippines Inc.	1	1	0.97	0.97	550,000
		EDUCATION					
3.7	2.65	iPeople Inc.	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	8,000
		DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
7	1.5	Easycall Comm. Phils. Inc.	7	7	7	7	1,000
4.35	1.84	Macroasia Corp.	3.95	4	3.9	3.95	554,000
16	13	Pacific Online Systems Corp.	14	14.25	14	14.25	880,300
30	9.5	Paxys Inc.	27	27.5	27	27.5	72,300
		MINING					
0.018	0.007	Abra Mining and Industrial Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	256,000,000
7.6	2.6	Apex Mining Company Inc. A	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	2,596,000
7.7	2.55	Apex Mining Company Inc. B	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.8	1,064,000
20.5	5.6	Atlas Cons. Mining and Dev't Corp.	20	20.5	20	20.25	4,464,800
14.75	8.7	Benguet Corp. A	12.5	12.75	12.5	12.5	120,000
35	20	Benguet Corp. B	27	27	27	27	500
4	1.62	Dizon Copper Silver Mines Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	8,000
2.12	0.0602	GEOGRACE Resources Philippines Inc.	2.06	2.08	2.06	2.06	18,200,000
0.42	0.215	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. A	0.3	0.31	0.3	0.3	7,470,000
0.47	0.225	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. B	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	530,000
0.037	0.0154	Manila Mining Corp. A	0.035	0.035	0.034	0.035	356,200,000
0.039	0.017	Manila Mining Corp. B	0.037	0.037	0.037	0.037	67,300,000
0.024	0.0075	Omico Corp.	0.02	0.02	0.019	0.02	1,072,100,000
5.9	2.65	Philex Mining Corp.	5.2	5.4	5.2	5.3	8,794,000
32	14.75	Semirara Mining Corp.	28	28	28	28	369,200
0.87	0.25	United Paragon Mining Corp.	0.78	0.79	0.78	0.79	1,260,000
1.8	0.41	Vulcan Industrial and Mining Corp.	1.4	1.46	1.38	1.46	19,805,000
		OIL					
0.58	0.23	Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.35	0.36	12,330,000
0.017	0.008	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. A	0.016	0.017	0.016	0.017	45,500,000
0.019	0.009	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. B	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	2,400,000
0.0182	0.0089	The Philodrill Corp.	0.016	0.017	0.016	0.016	1,100,700,000

COMPILED BY INQUIRER RESEARCH

SOURCE: TECHNISTOCK

CURRENCIES

May 10, 2007 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.739098	1.000000	47.2930
Japan	Yen	0.006155	0.008328	0.3939
United Kingdom	Pound	1.474279	1.994700	94.3353
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.094519	0.127884	6.0480
Switzerland	Franc	0.606713	0.820883	38.8220
Canada	Dollar	0.668202	0.904077	42.7565
Singapore	Dollar	0.487982	0.660240	31.2247
Australia	Dollar	0.612343	0.828500	39.1823
Bahrain	Dinar*	1.960577	2.652661	125.4523
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.197082	0.266652	12.6108
Brunei	Dollar	0.486377	0.658068	31.1220
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000084	0.000114	0.0054
Thailand	Baht	0.022741	0.030769	1.4552
UAE	Dirham	0.201230	0.272264	12.8762
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.353000	63.9874
Korea	Won	0.000800	0.001082	0.0512
China	Yuan**	0.096068	0.129980	6.1471
Argentina	Peso	0.240357	0.325203	15.3798
Brazil	Real	0.365565	0.494609	23.3915
Denmark	Kroner	0.134235	0.181620	8.5894
India	Rupee	0.018173	0.024588	1.1628
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.217254	0.293945	13.9015
Mexico	New Peso	0.068503	0.092685	4.3834
New Zealand	Dollar	0.543095	0.734808	34.7513
Norway	Kroner	0.122908	0.166295	7.8646
Pakistan	Rupee	0.012200	0.016507	0.7807
South Africa	Rand	0.107563	0.145533	6.8827
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.022213	0.030054	1.4213

Source: Reuters' forex closing prices as of NY time—May 9, 2007
* Various banks in Bahrain as quoted in Reuters' Screen. ** Asian time closing rate as of May 9, 2007

Sell ...

From page B1

In the first quarter, the BIR collected only P143.1 billion worth of taxes, falling short of its P155.2-billion target for the period by P12.1 billion. The BIR is now hard-pressed to meet its P765-billion collection target for the year.

The DOF said, however, that the BIR would be implementing measures to keep to its full-year target.

The DOF added that the government would try to generate as much revenue as it could from its privatization efforts.

Michelle V. Remo

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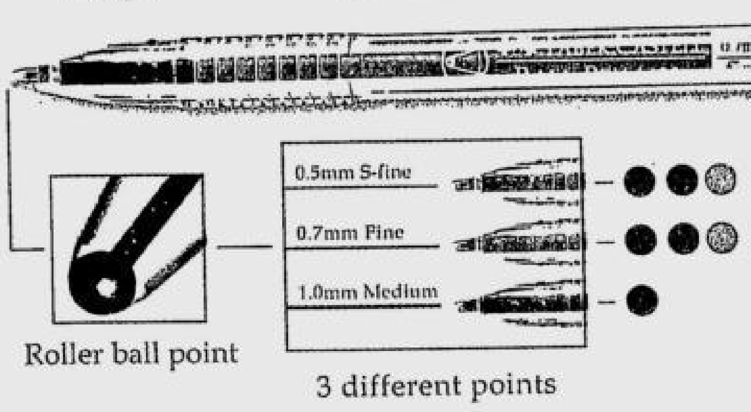

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1. What are LTNCDs?
LTNCDs are negotiable certificates of deposit indicating an amount of indebtedness of a bank with a designated maturity. Its minimum features as specified by BSP Circular No. 304, Series of 2001 specify that it be denominated in Philippine Pesos, have a minimum maturity of five (5) years, be scripless in form, and registered with a third party Registry Bank maintaining an Electronic Registry Book. Primarily offered through selling agents and subsequently sold through authorized market makers, it represents the Bank's obligation to pay the LTNCD's face value upon maturity and the specified coupon or interest every three months during the life of the certificate of deposit.

2. Why invest in LTNCDs?
As a bond-deposit hybrid, LTNCDs are high-yielding instruments that are negotiable. Further, LTNCDs are covered by PDIC insurance up to P250,000 per depositor. An investor can subscribe to an LTNCD for as low as P100,000. LTNCDs were especially meant to mobilize savings and encourage long-term investment for individual investors as a withholding tax-exempt certificate if held to maturity.

3. Who can purchase the LTNCDs?
The LTNCDs cater primarily to individuals and corporations in search of a superior investment alternative which will help diversify their portfolios. The LTNCDs will also be available for purchase by financial and other institutional investors.

4. Where and when can an investor purchase LTNCDs?
The LTNCDs will be sold to the public during the public offer period through the selling agents–BPI Capital Corporation and Standard Chartered Bank.

5. How does an investor participate in the Public Offer?
Investors may subscribe for LTNCDs from any of the selling agents, subject to account opening and Know-Your- Customer procedures of each selling agent. Only duly executed applications to purchase accompanied by check payments or appropriate debit instructions covering the entire issue price applied for will be accepted by the Arranger and the Selling Agents. The Bank, however, reserves the right to accept, reject, scale down or reallocate any application to purchase. Investors will be required to open a peso deposit account or designate an existing peso account (subsequent to the execution of special power of attorney) where interest payment and redemption of the LTNCDs will be credited. For corporations, copies of the board resolutions indicating authorized signatories and specimen signatures shall be required.

6. What is an investor's proof of ownership?
No certificate will be issued to CD Holders although registry confirmations, confirming the registration of LTNCDs in the name of each investor, will be sent by the registrar to the address indicated by each investor on his application to purchase. The best evidence of ownership will be the registry book maintained by the third party registrar.

7. Can an investor still purchase LTNCDs after the Public Offering?
After the public offer, an investor can buy LTNCDs from the secondary market through Standard Chartered Bank as the Market Maker, or any other market maker that may be appointed by the Bank, at prevailing market prices.

8. What are the risks involved in investing in LTNCDs?
Yield on the LTNCDs is assured if the investor holds to maturity. However, if an investor opts to sell the LTNCDs in the secondary market prior to maturity, then the LTNCDs will be subject to a price risk depending on the prevailing market rate at the time the LTNCDs are resold in the secondary market. Further, withholding taxes and other fees may apply.

9. Can the LTNCDs be pre-terminated?
LTNCDs cannot be terminated by the holder thereof before maturity date, unless there occurs an event described under "Events of Default". CD Holders may, however, assign or transfer the LTNCDs (subject to certain selling restrictions) and such transfer or assignment shall not be considered a pre-termination. Transfer of a CD Holder's LTNCD may only be done through a Market Maker. LTNCDs may, however, be pre-terminated by the Bank, upon prior notice to the holder on record.

10. Registry Fees Payable by CD Holders
a) Account Opening and Maintenance Fees
Account Opening Fee
₱200.00 shall be payable by each CD Holder for each securities account opened in the Registry Book on Issue Date and for each new CD Holder in the secondary market.
Maintenance Fee*
3 basis points (0.03%) per annum based on face value of the CD to be deducted from gross interest on the interest payment dates.
* In the event of a transfer in between interest payment dates, the Maintenance Fee corresponding to the holding period of the transferor shall be deducted from the proceeds of the transfer. In as much as the purchase price of the transferee was reduced accordingly, the transferee as of interest payment date shall pay for the Maintenance Fee for the entire three-month period.
b) Fees on Transactions in the Secondary Market
Transfer Fee
₱200.00 shall be payable by the transferor for each transfer (to the CD Holders' own or to another account).
c) Other Fees
Request for Statement
Free quarterly statements will be given to the CD Holders. Should monthly statements be requested, a charge of ₱50 for Metro Manila and provincial residents, per statement requested, will be collected before release of the statement.
Replacement of Lost, Stolen, Mutilated or Destroyed Registry Confirmation
₱200 for Metro Manila and provincial residents per replacement Registry Confirmation.
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SMC revives hybrid bond float plan

Company expects to generate $500M for new business ventures

SAN MIGUEL CORP. HOPES TO RAISE $500 million through a hybrid bond issuance to fund its expansion into infrastructure, power, mining and utilities, SMC president Ramon Ang said.

Southeast Asia's largest food and beverage company stunned investors this week when it said it would list its flagship domestic beer group and its regional packaging business in two initial public offerings next year and branch into heavy industry at home.

SMC chair Eduardo Cojuangco told reporters on the sidelines of a stockholders' meeting that the company was studying a possible bid for a multi-billion dollar license to run the national grid as well as possible bids for state-run power plants.

"We are studying it," Cojuangco said. "We want bigger businesses in which not just anybody can get into."

Cojuangco said SMC would take at least a 51-percent stake in any new business.

"We have said a long time ago that we would want to be the ones responsible in determining the future of the company we run."

The government wants to raise up to $5 billion by privatizing the national grid and dozens of power plants but only a handful of sales have been made due to uncertainty over investment returns.

"To sustain the growth that we have been growing at in the previous years, we have to think of new businesses to get into," Cojuangco said.

Earlier this year Ang and two other local businessmen formed a consortium to bid for a National Transmission Corp. (Transco) license but the auction failed and a fresh round of bidding is expected later in 2007.

Transco was valued at P138 billion ($2.9 billion) but it needed about $850 million over the next five years for upgrades and expansion.

SMC's B shares, open to all investors, finished up 1.97 percent at P77.5. *Reuters, with a report from Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson*

Investors still keen on bidding for Calaca plant

FOUR ENTITIES HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST in bidding for the 600-megawatt (MW) Calaca coal-fired power plant in Batangas, which Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. has lined up for auction in the second half.

PSALM president and chief executive Jose Ibazeta said the Calaca plant was still generating enough investor interest, although the first two attempts to sell it were both declared failures.

Ibazeta said PSALM was reviewing the reserve price—or the floor price—for the asset, particularly as more power supply deals were expected to be attached to it soon.

PSALM vice president for asset management and electricity trading Froilan Tampinco earlier said the government agency was expecting a "substantial" power supply contract to be attached to the facility.

"While this will be the third round of bidding for the Calaca plant, we know that investors remain keen on acquiring this particular asset," he said. "They, however, continue to be apprehensive, primarily due to the lack or insufficiency of power supply allocations."

PSALM tried selling the Calaca plant twice, but both auctions were declared failures. The first was because only one bidder, First Generation Luzon Power Corp., showed up at the auction. The second was declared a failure when both bidders, First Gen and DMCI Holdings Inc., failed to meet the $288-million reserve price for the plant.

Ibazeta declined to comment on whether PSALM was open to reducing the reserve price for the asset, saying only that the $288-million reserve price for it was based on its valuation at the time of the auction. *Abigail Ho*

AGRICULTURE Secretary Arthur C. Yap (left) and Marcelino Tugaoen, National Irrigation Administration chief, inspect the four-barrel box culvert 'checkgate' structure embankment construction at Siffir South Main Canal Station 4 along Baramban Creek, which forms part of the Magat River Integrated Irrigation System at Bantug, Roxas in Isabela.

First Gen, DMCI in joint venture talks

By Abigail L. Ho

LOPEZ-OWNED FIRST GEN CORP. IS finalizing a joint venture arrangement with DMCI Holdings Inc. for the establishment of a $120-million 100-megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant in Concepcion, Iloilo.

First Gen senior vice president Ricardo Tantoco said it was logical for the power firm to tie up with DMCI for the project, since the latter controlled Semirara Mining Corp., the country's largest coal producer.

While the two companies had yet to finalize a joint venture deal, Tantoco said First Gen wanted to have a majority stake in the project.

Right now, he said First Gen and DMCI were still waiting for the issuance of the environmental compliance certificate for the project, which they expected to come out within the year.

Upon completion of the project, Tantoco said the power plant's output would be sold to electric cooperatives servicing the Panay group of islands. Possible offtakers include Iloilo Electric Cooperative 1 and 2, Aklan Electric Cooperative, and Capiz Electric Cooperative.

The Panay group of islands is heavily reliant on diesel-based power generation and some geothermal power from Negros.

"Panay right now is primarily a diesel island, so we believe that there's room there for a genuine baseload plant," he said, adding that the First Gen-DMCI coal-fired power plant would be the answer to that need for baseload power generation in the area.

He said First Gen had allotted $1.3 billion to bankroll "greenfield" projects in the next few years, including the Panay clean coal power plant. Other projects in the pipeline include the 550-MW San Gabriel gas-fired power plant, the 400-MW Pagbilao coal-fired power plant expansion, and some hydropower facilities.

Post-harvest losses

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

GIVEN THE DANGERS OF GLOBAL WARMING that are already upon us, where a 1°C change in temperature can mean a 10-percent loss in food production, it is imperative that we look at post harvest losses. Traditionally, agricultural programs focus on increasing farm production, when the real goal should be raising food production. It sometimes costs less to spend on post-harvest facilities than on farm production to produce the same increase in food. Reducing post-harvest losses in our country is a key strategy that will bring us both food security and lower prices.

The table below shows our major food crops with their share of agriculture production and post-harvest losses.

Post-harvest attention has been given primarily to rice and corn, neglecting fruits and vegetables. And yet, fruits and vegetables account for more value than rice and corn combined. Also, their post-harvest loss rates are two to three times greater than those of rice and corn.

Vegetables have a 42-percent average loss rate while fruits have an average loss rate of 28 percent. It is imperative that fruits and vegetables get their fair share of post-harvest resources and attention.

Post-harvest support

The organization tasked to address this issue is the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Post-Harvest Research and Extension under Director Ricardo Cachuela.

He says, "Our Bureau's budget for 2007 is only P53 million. We need a much larger budget to address our post-harvest losses, which is among the highest in our region today."

The Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (Afma) recognizes the gravity of the situation. It mandates that P2 billion be earmarked yearly for post-harvest facilities. But this is far from being implemented.

It is also suggested that these resources be used more effectively through a farmer-centered approach and creative financing.

Instead of merely looking at the post-harvest problems of a farmer, a systemic and wholistic farmer-centered approach should be taken. There are three key elements important to increasing food production: courses of action: water, seeds and post-harvest facilities.

Water is commonly provided by constructing more irrigation. The bias today is to do this through new irrigation systems which cost P200,000 per hectare, instead of repairing existing systems which cost only P20,000 a hectare, even if both yield the same amount of water. The irrigation approach is usually the most expensive of the three alternatives.

Changing to improved seed varieties is usually the least expensive way of increasing food production. For example, using certified palay seeds instead of the traditional varieties costs only P650 a hectare, but improves rice yields significantly from three to 4.2 tons per hectare.

The cost of the post-harvest alternative per hectare usually ranges between the water and seed alternatives. Which alternative to use should, however, not be determined by the cost alone, but by the return on investment. It is calculated by the additional food value generated by each of these alternatives and then divided by the cost.

Creative financing

In "Technology Systems for Small Farmers," Martin E. Pienero states: "In most cases, the lack of availability of technology is not the central element contributing to the poverty of small farmers. Access to resources and other services is much more likely to be the major contributor."

Post-harvest facilities are therefore often out of the reach of small farmers.

A recommended approach is to first identify leaders in the small farmer clusters that have identified post harvest facilities as the alternative with the highest ROI. They are then given conditional grants which will be paid back on liberal terms, after a grace period of two years. Repayment will be required only if the project succeeds.

When other farmers see their leaders succeed, they will then be more inclined to invest in post-harvest facilities. When they invest, they should be given a relatively liberal payback schedule with an appropriate grace period. If foreign donors do this for us, why don't we do it for our small farmers?

Successful model

Some of these features have already been tried and have succeeded in the rice program under Dr. Francisco Malabanan in 2001. With a P200-million decrease in budget, the use of certified seeds doubled from 700,000 to 1.5 million hectares, resulting in record rice production.

It is hoped that the senators and the representatives whom we will elect three days from now will recognize the importance of post-harvest facilities. They should provide for the Afma mandated annual budget of P2 billion for post-harvest facilities. The farmers can then work with the DA in implementing a farmer-centered approach using ROI criteria and creative financing to address our severe post-harvest problems, thus helping achieve food security and lowering food prices.

(The author is Agriwatch chair. For inquiries and suggestions, e-mail agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax (02) 8522112.)

POST-HARVEST LOSSES

	% of VALUE	LOSSES
RICE	29%	15%
CORN	14%	13%
FRUITS and VEGETABLES	44%	35%

Conglomerates report ...

From page B2

the highest results *(See story below)*.

The banking group contributed to the AEV some P599 million, up 75 percent from the first quarter of 2006.

Aside from banking, AEV has interests in food manufacturing, shipping and power generation and distribution.

SM Investments Corp. of tycoon Henry Sy reported a 14-percent increase in profit to P3.3 billion in the first quarter of 2007.

Consolidated revenue expanded by 108.6 percent to P25.9 billion, largely from the expansion of its department stores and malls last year and the establishment of 28 SM supermarkets and nine SM hypermarkets. These stores were integrated into SM's retail sector in June 2006, doubling the sector's revenue base. SM is also seeing a bigger income contribution from its real estate operations. From an income contribution of only 4 percent last year, the real estate sector now accounts for 12 percent of SM's total income.

SM president Harley Sy said, "SM Investments is off to a good start in 2007 with strong earnings growth in the first quarter. The economy continues to be buoyant this year and we are feeling the positive effect in all our businesses. We are confident that the trend will be sustainable. As such, we continue to gear up through our expansion of stores, malls, banks and property projects worth P20 billion this year, which speaks of SM's strong commitment to the Philippines."

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Political ads boost ABS-CBN profit

By Daxim L. Lucas

INCREASED SPENDING ON POlitical advertisements has helped ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. double its bottom line in the first quarter of the year.

In a briefing yesterday, officials of the country's largest broadcasting firm said its net income for the first three months of 2007 hit P280 million from P118 million in the same period last year.

This 138-percent increase was "underpinned by the continuous improvement in the core business," ABS-CBN's chief financial officer Mike Navarette said.

The company's gross revenues increased by 8 percent on a year-on-year basis to P4.18 billion, driven by higher airtime revenues and sales of services.

More importantly, the frenetic campaign period for this year's national and local elections boosted ABS-CBN's gross airtime revenues by 20 percent to P2.71 billion on the back of higher advertising volume as well as political ads, many of which were targeted toward primetime viewers.

The combined sales of services and subsidiaries' sale of goods also showed a 16-percent increase to P1.37 billion in the first quarter.

This was due to the strong performance of ABS-CBN Global and ABS-CBN Films.

The company revealed that the total subscriber base of ABS-CBN Global—the network's international viewers who subscribe to its cable service—rose by 18 percent year-on-year, equivalent to a total of 1.6 million viewers worldwide, mainly among the expatriate Filipino communities. Meanwhile, ABS-CBN Films registered a 51-percent increase in revenues, buoyed by robust ticket sales for the movies Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo; Agent X44, and You Got Me.

On the expense side, the company managed to rein in spending, which was almost flat on an annual basis at P3.66 billion.

"With revenues rising faster than expenses, operating income improved by 38 percent to P532 million, translating to an operating margin of 13 percent, against 10 percent in the same period last year," the company added in a statement.

eTelecare Q1 income doubles to $5.2M

By Ronnel W. Domingo

NASDAQ-LISTED ETELECARE Global Solutions Inc. yesterday reported a 206-percent increase in net income to $5.2 million in the first quarter, citing the strong performance of its largely Quezon City-based operations.

Also, the call center service provider said revenues in the three months ending March 31 were up 50 percent increase to $62.1 million.

John Harris, eTelecare president and chief executive, said in a statement the continued revenue growth in the first quarter was accompanied by strong operating results.

Income from operations for the period was $7.3 million or 12 percent of revenues, a 128-percent increase compared to the performance last year.

"Despite the operational challenges presented by the rapid growth of our Philippine service delivery operations and the strengthening of the peso against the US dollar, we were able to deliver a strong financial performance that validates our 'invest to outperform' business model," Harris said.

He explained that this banked on the thrust to focus on multi-shore (Philippines and United States) operations; investing significantly in the quality of people and processes; and basing prices of contracts on value created for the client rather than focusing on minimizing costs.

"eTelecare's strong first quarter built upon the solid financial performance of 2006, which was instrumental in the successful completion of our recent (initial public offer at the Nasdaq)," Harris said.

eTelecare joined the Nasdaq on March 28, offering $13.50 a share for a total of $74.25 million.

Harris said last month that going public would provide the capital that would allow eTelecare to devote more resources to people, systems and the expansion of its delivery capabilities, as well as pay off some outstanding debt.

Put up in 1999, eTelecare delivers customer care, technical support and sales capabilities for market-leading companies in major industries such as telecommunications, high technology, financial services and travel.

Seven of 10 or 7,000 of eTelecare employees are based in the Philippines and the rest in the United States, working for clients who are in Fortune 100 lists and other market-leading companies.

Palay ...

From page B8

ture and post-harvest facilities before the onset of the rainy season to shore up production.

He said these post-harvest facilities, which include dryers and storage areas, would help ensure the sustained growth of the crops subsector.

The Department of Agriculture has earmarked P3.13 billion for the rehabilitation, repair and restoration of irrigation systems, covering 55,000 ha of rice lands for the first half of the year.

Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Bicol, Western Visayas and Soccsksargen are expected to post significant production gains for the period.

As for corn, BAS said Cagayan Valley, ARMM, Caraga and Ilocos region were expected to contribute significantly to the increased production.

Harvest area may expand to 1.06 million hectares by June, a 4.7-percent expansion from last year's 1.01 million hectares.

Third quarter corn harvest area and production are likewise seen to increase by 3.8 percent and 4.1 percent respectively. Expectations of early rainfall and simultaneous planting after the dry spell are expected to encourage farmers in ARMM, Davao, CAR, Cagayan Valley and Central Visayas to plant more corn.

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Growth Fund - Peso	1.81451	1.77730
Bond Fund - US Dollar	1.3921	1.3890

* Note These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

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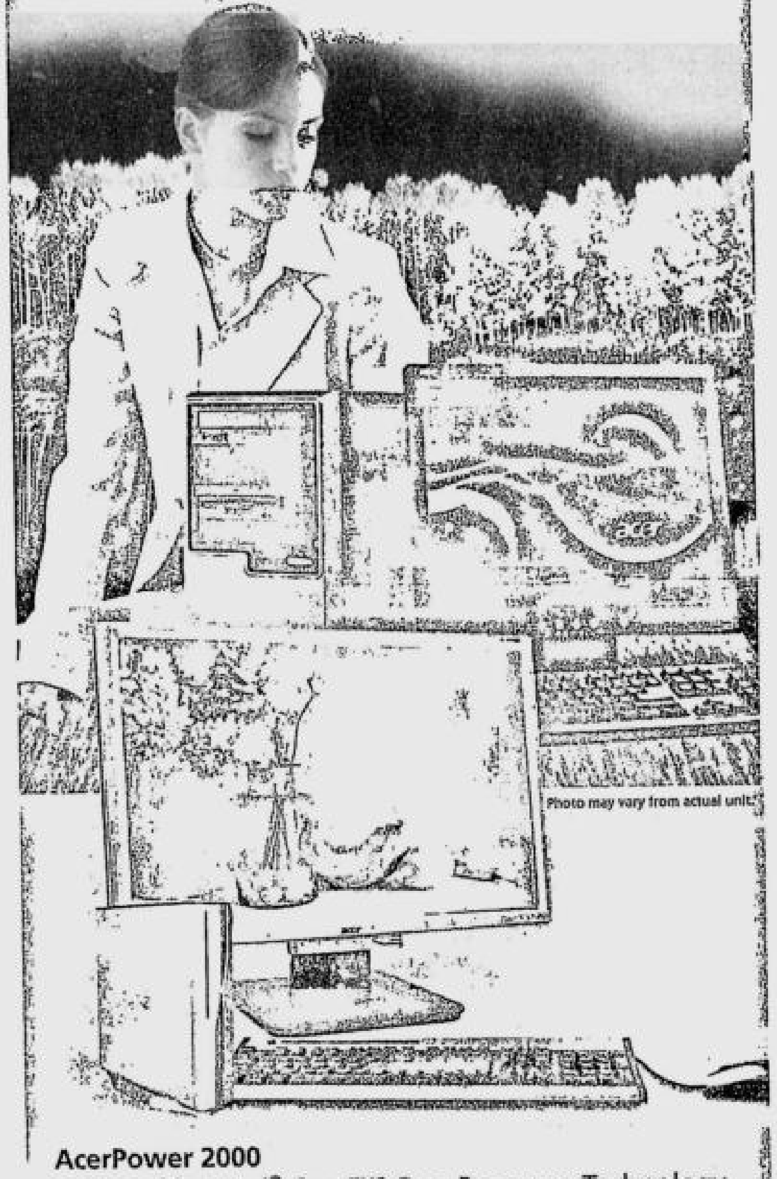

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Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s:

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National	Position
GSV SOLUTIONS, INC. 169 Dela Costa St., 10/F Unit B, Salcedo Village, Makati City	Stephen Paul Maxwell	Operations Manager
TAKUMA TEC PHILIPPINES INCORPORATED 5/F Liberty Bldg., 835 A. Arnaiz Ave., Legaspi Village, Makati City	Masaaki Motoi	Technical Specialist
UNITED SOUTH INTL. BUSINESS CENTER INC. 111 Aguirre Ave., BF Homes, Paranaque City	Eunjoo Im	Marketing Manager
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MAKATI SHANGRI-LA HOTEL & RESORT INC. Ayala cor. Makati Avenues, Makati City	Hiroko Kubota	Japanese Guest Relations Officer
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PHIL. TRANSPORT XPRESS CORP. Financial Center, D. Macapagal Blvd., Pasay City	Bong Sam Son	General Manager
BST PHILIPPINES, INC. Unit 303 One Corporate Plaza, 845 Arnaiz Ave., Legaspi Village, Makati City	Hirotaka Kataoka	Japanese Assistant for Production
CNP-KORCOM CORP. Unit 130 Computer Depot, Dona Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Cheolhong Park	General Manager
GAEMEE CORPORATION SM City Bicutan, Dona Soledad Ave., Don Bosco, Paranaque	Youngmi Kang (w/o CHO)	Asst. Marketing Manager
BANCO DE ORO UNIVERSAL BANK 12 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City	Tsuguhisa Tanaka	Consultant
MAGELLAN METALS, INC. 3/F 111 Paseo de Roxas Bldg., Paseo de Roxas, cor. Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati City	Roderick Watt	Chief Executive Officer

If you have any information/objection to the above mentioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

LOURDES M. TRASMONTE
Regional Director

The DOLE conducts free seminar on Labor-Human Relations and Productivity. For more information, please call 339-2013 & 303-5920.

(PDI–May 11, 2007)

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION FINANCING CORPORATION
Suite 401 OMM-CITRA Building
# 39 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605
Tel Nos. (02) 637-3664 or 637-3666

URGENTLY NEEDS

LOANS OFFICER

Qualification Requirements

Bachelors Degree from accredited University in Finance, Accounting or Business. CPA, MBA, or equivalent advanced degree preferred. Must be between age 30-40. Preferably Male.

Required Skills and Knowledge

Able to understand complex loan, supervised credit and business concept procedures. Ability to delegate authority, yet retain final responsibility. Able to manage complex situations. Interpersonal and motivational skills. Ability to conceptualize ideas and present those ideas to others. Team player. Leadership qualities. Must be bondable.

Work Experience

At least five years experience of progressive management in finance institutions or institutions providing financial services to Philippine Electric Utilities.

Interested persons can submit their application and resume at Suite 401 OMM-CITRA Building, # 39 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF BULACAN
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
Branch 7, Malolos

IN THE MATTER OF THE
PETITION FOR THE CORPORATE
REHABILITATION OF -
CIVIL CASE NO. 592-M-2006
VITARICH CORPORATION,
Petitioner
x - - - - - - - - - - - - x

ORDER

On April 27, 2007, the court-appointed Rehabilitation Receiver, Mr. Melito S. Salazar, Jr., has submitted a Receiver's Report recommending a modified Rehabilitation Plan.

The petitioner corporation or any of its creditors or interested party who had qualified under Section 10 of the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Rehabilitation are hereby given fifteen (15) days from receipt of copy of this order, or from the date of the publication of this order, to comment on the said Receiver's Report.

The Rehabilitation Receiver is hereby directed to immediately cause the publication of this order once in the Manila Bulletin, Philippine Daily Inquirer and Philippine Star.

SO ORDERED.
City of Malolos, Bulacan.
May 07, 2007

(Sgd.) DANILO A. MANALASTAS
Judge

(PDI–May 11, 2007)

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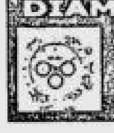

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (PICC)

SECTION I. INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID (IAETB)

SUPPLY OF VARIOUS YORK CHILLER PARTS

The PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (PICC), through its Approved Budget for CY 2007 intends to apply the sum of **THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN PESOS (P3,506,147.00)** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments for the above-mentioned procurement. Bids in excess of ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The PICC now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for abovementioned requirement to be procured.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Only bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat of the PICC and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below anytime during office hours from **May 21 to 28, 2007.**

The PICC-BAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **May 29, 2007, 10:00 a.m.** at the PICC Cafeteria area, Second Floor, Secretariat Building.

Prospective bidders are required to download the Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid from Phil-GEPS website. The BAC will issue hard copies of the bid deocuments upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **FOUR THOUSAND PESOS (P4,000.00).** The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below at or before **10:00 a.m., June 12, 2007.** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of (cash/Manager's/Cashier's Check) in the amount of **P35,061.47** or an equivalent amount equivalent to 1% of the ABC or Surety Bond in the amount equivalent to 2.5% of the ABC or **Eighty Seven Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Three Pesos & Sixty Eight Centavos (P87,653.68)**, callable upon demand. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on **June 12, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Cafeteria area, PICC, CCP Complex, Pasay City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

The PICC-BAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER
CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City 1307
(02) 551-82-30 or (02) 551-79-20 (loc. 7855 and 7149)
Telefax No. (02) 551-68-73
BAC1@picc.gov.ph

(Sgd.) VICTORIA C. BERCILES
BAC Chairperson

(PDI–May 11, 2007)

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OBITUARIES

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
Tel. Nos. : 712-3001 • 749-3806 to 11

NAME OF DECEASED	PLACE OF VIEWING	INTERMENT/CREMATION	
		DATE & TIME	PLACE
Engr. Jose Felipe P. Ventura	Chapel-K	5/12/2007 after the 7:00 a.m. Mass	Paz Crematory
Danilo Fabian	Chapel-A	12-May-07 8:00 a.m.	Eternal Gardens

OBITUARIES

In life we loved you dearly, in death we promise to do the same
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home

Affectionately Remembering
THE FIFTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR DEARLY BELOVED DADDY

DANNY N. SILVA

September 5, 1948 – May 11, 2002

Remembering Daddy's life brings us joy and though our hearts still grieve, there is so much love and comfort in the memories of his goodness for his unselfishness love for all and our wonderful times together will fill our hearts and minds till we join him for all eternity.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at the following churches:

Parish of the Resurrection, BF Homes, Parañaque	6:15 am & 6:30 p.m.
Presentation of the Child Jesus Parish, BF Homes	6:45 am
Sta. Clara Parish, Pasay City	7:00 p.m.
St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Makati	6:00 a.m.
St. Andrew The Apostle Parish	6:30 p.m.
St. John Bosco Parish, Makati	6:30 a.m.
San Ildefonso Parish, Makati	6:00 a.m.
Holy Family Parish, Makati	6:00 p.m.
Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, Makati	7:00 a.m.
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Makati	7:00 a.m. & 8:00 a.m.
St. Anthony de Padua Parish, Manila	7:00 a.m.

We request the readers and our friends to say a prayer for him, too.

Juliet, Nanay Leony, Joy, Dex & Dionne, Gieo & Joaquin

ATTY. VICTORIANO V. CRUZ

of Angat & Baliuag, Bulacan
and Xavierville III, Quezon City

Peacefully joined our Creator on
Wednesday, 9th of May 2007
at the age of 93.

His loving children **Edgardo & Cesar**, relatives & friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, Inc., 12 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City. Interment will be on Sunday, 13th of May 2007 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

ALEJANDRO "ALEX" DELA CRUZ BUMANLAG

of Aliaga, Nueva Ecija
and Marikina City

Peacefully joined our Lord
on May 8, 2007 at the age of 59.

His remains lie in state at Chapel A of Marian Memorial Chapels, Marcos Highway, Antipolo City.

His family requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be on Sunday, May 13, 2007, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Paraiso Memorial Park, San Mateo Rizal.

Notify family and friends of a loved one who had just passed away.

We accept death notices, announcing details of the person's wake and interment. For a very affordable fee you can reach out to everyone who have been a part of the life of your dearly departed. For more information, you may contact Inquirer Classifieds at (02)897 8425.

Dr. FULGENCIO C. FRANCISCO M.D.

August 4, 1922 – May 9, 2007
Class 1951 – UST College of Medicine

His loving wife **Fortunata G. Francisco** (†) children: **Edwin & Diwi Francisco, Thelma & Teddy Tualla, Alita & Jose Bonifacio**; grandchildren: **EJ, ER & Winnie Ann, Lorence Philip & Grace Shelly, Kaye**; Brothers & Sisters: **Luz (†), Roberto, Gabriel, Alfredo & Alicia**; In-laws: Pilar Reyes (†), Taciano Garovillas (†) & Fermina Pinto & other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence.

Interment on Saturday, May 12, 2007, after the 3:00 p.m. Mass at the Foreverlasting Memorial at Teresa, Rizal.

The LORD is my SHEPHERD...

Former Congressman
FAUSTINO BALTAZAR TOBIA

First District, Ilocos Sur
(January 1, 1917 – May 11, 2006)

We, his children, **Robert, Frances, Celia, Victoria, Caridad, Manuel, Cristina and Mario**, and our families, lovingly remember, one year ago today, May 11, 2007, our dearest **PAPA**, loving husband to our mother, **Patrocinio Hernando Tobia** and doting grandfather & great-grandfather to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Please join us to give honor to **PAPA** today, for the 9:00 a.m. Eucharistic celebration at the Admin Chapel, Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

May we request pious readers, relatives and friends to pray for the eternal repose of the soul of our dearest **PAPA**.

Ship industry seen to fret over Marina's new fee

But authorities say charge meant to boost ship trade

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (Marina) is planning to impose a new fee on ships under its supervision.

Manina Administrator Vicente T. Suazo Jr. said the funds to be raised would be used to develop the shipping industry.

Suazo said the new fee will replace the supervision fee it used to charge before the approval of Republic Act No. 9295, or the Domestic Shipping Development Act.

"We are mandated to introduce new fees," Suazo said in explaining the move.

He said Marina is thinking about collecting P20 per gross registered tonnage of ships under its supervision.

Suazo said the proposed new fee is currently being reviewed by Marina's board and may be green-lighted by the agency's board of directors before the end of the month.

The new fee comes as Marina posted lower revenue collection in 2006.

Last year, Marina reported that it only managed to collect P200 million in revenue, missing its target by 8 percent.

The collection is also P38 million less than the collection of the previous year.

The attached agency of the transport department said the removal of the supervision fee previously levied on shipping companies had a big effect on collection.

A report from the Commission on Audit showed that the removal of the supervision fee under the Domestic Shipping Development Act led to forgone revenues of P15.69 million.

Domestic shipping firms are expected to be unhappy about the fee, which will only cut their profit margins at a time of fierce competition among shipping companies and airlines.

Suazo said, however, that Marina has to impose new fees to fund its new responsibilities, not only in regulating the industry, but also in developing the domestic shipping trade.

Exports still . . .

From page B1

Office (NSO), electronics exports grew 9.6 percent to $3.043 billion in March from a year ago. Electronics accounted for 66.6 percent of the country's total exports.

The country exports intermediate electronics products that are used for the manufacture of items like cellular phones, laptops, MP3 players, and iPods, among others.

The Neda said that while the US economy is seen to be slowing down, demand for electronics from other economies, like those in Europe and Asia, is expected to continue to rise this year.

Articles of apparel and clothing accessories were the country's second-biggest exports for the month, accounting for $184.24 million of total receipts. But the sale of garments and accessories dropped by 5 percent year-on-year.

The third biggest earners were woodcraft and furniture, accounting for $97.30 million of total earnings for the month. Global demand for these products represented a 110 percent increase from only $46.34 million in March last year.

The Philippines sold $676.23 million worth of products to the United States. Hong Kong was the second top export destination for Philippine-made products, accounting for $653.89 million.

Japan emerged third, with exports amounting to $599.04 million. Other top export markets for March were China, $484.94 million; The Netherlands, $356.94 million; and Taiwan, $342.61 million.

A good marriage between social, business goals

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

CORPORATE CITIZEN

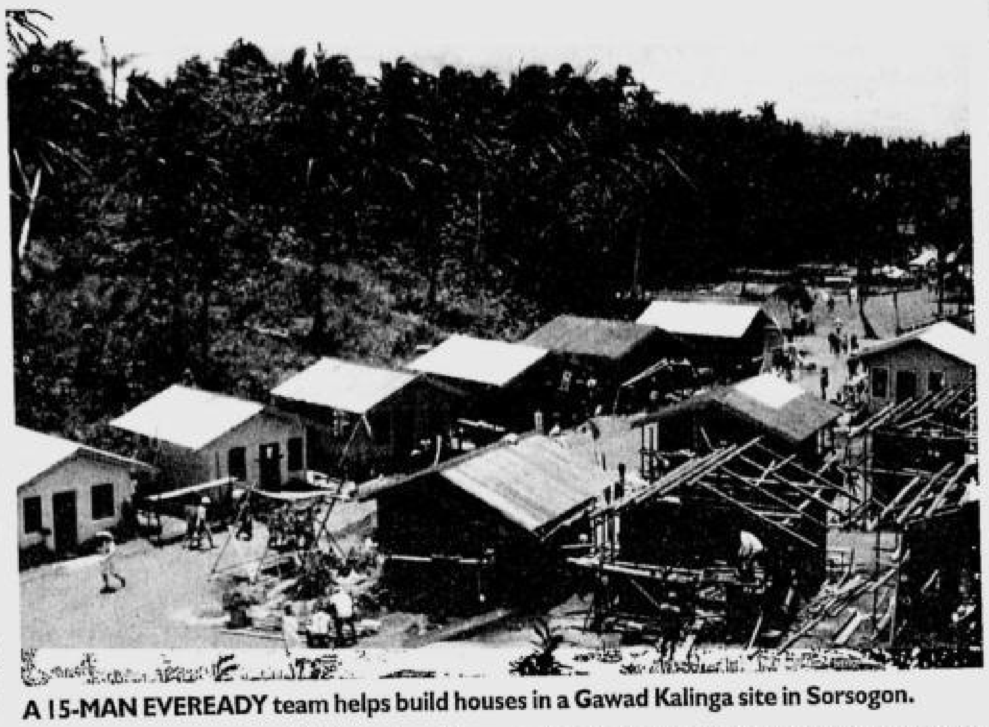
IT WAS AN EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEER PROJECT that Eveready in the Philippines adopted as its own.

In 2006, workers belonging to the Eveready Employees Union raised enough money among themselves to build a house in Gawad Kalinga's site in Tawi-Tawi.

Inspired by the employees' enthusiasm toward the housing project, Eveready matched the fund and the one house became two.

This year, Eveready took the program several steps further when it pledged to build 100 houses for GK through its Pabahay ng Buhay program.

Gawad Kalinga is a housing and community development project founded in October 2003 that aims to build 700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in seven years, or by 2010.



A 15-MAN EVEREADY team helps build houses in a Gawad Kalinga site in Sorsogon.

Ambitious project

Eveready buyers also get to contribute to this ambitious housing program because the program will be funded by the sale of Eveready batteries.

Eveready will need to raise at least P6 million to meet its goal of building 100 houses since each house costs between P60,000 and P80,000.

The fund goes to the purchase of construction materials, since labor is provided for by the beneficiaries as well as corporate and individual volunteers.

Eveready Phils. marketing manager Alan Roy McCormick told the INQUIRER in an interview that it was the huge impact on the beneficiary communities of the housing projects that encouraged the company to go into the program in a big way.

"We have always been a part of the Filipinos' life because of the batteries, so we thought about how else we can help, we found it in Gawad Kalinga," McCormick said.

He added that the Pabahay ng Buhay program was a good marriage between Eveready's social and business goals because, by increasing Eveready sales, so too will the money for the housing project.

Good investment

"It is a good way to get our customers to also participate," McCormick said. "We believe it is a good investment on their part in an advocacy."

He said Eveready packs now come with a sticker informing buyers that part of the sales will go to the ambitious housing project.

Under the plan, 20 houses will be built in Sitio Ruby, Quezon City; 40 houses in Eastern Samar, and 40 houses in Bukidnon, Mindanao.

Eveready is confident it will be able to generate the funds because Eveready has enjoyed market leadership for over 50 years of operation in the Philippines.

Its figures showed that its flagship range of Super Heavy Duty carbon zinc batteries is the preferred brand in four of five Filipino households.

Eveready has been selling batteries in the Philippines since 1951.

"With Eveready Pabahay ng Buhay, we are merely taking what our employees did to a national level by getting more people involved," Eveready president Esteban Vorbeck said in a statement. "We want to give Eveready users the easiest possible way to help in giving these (beneficiary) families a fresh start."

Aside from building homes, Eveready has also donated a sari-sari store to Gawad Kalinga's Taguig community.

The vision is for the store to become a mini-hardware, which will be run by members of the community to provide them with another source of livelihood.

Eveready batteries and flashlights will be included in the list products to be sold by the mini-hardware stores, McCormick said.

A company that cares

"If this project works, I believe it will (unite) the people—the manufacturing company, the suppliers and the customers," McCormick said.

He also said that the families getting homes for the first time are not the only ones benefiting from the project.

He said Eveready's 400 employees are also gaining in terms of morale, because they find another reason to go to work in the morning.

"They believe that they are not just here for the salary," McCormick said. "When the project was communicated for instance in our plant in Cebu, they said they feel better about their work because they can do something extra.

"It is nice to work for a company that cares."

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The TF Halalan Command Center is electronically linked to all power plants and TransCo regional and area control centers nationwide. It will be operational 24 hours a day from May 12 to 17, 2007.

Palay, corn output up in 2007

By Amy R. Remo

THE PALAY AND corn sectors are expected to exceed last year's production this year despite adverse weather conditions, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics.

BAS said palay production for the first half of the year may reach 6.68 million metric tons, 2.2 percent higher than last year's production of 6.54 million metric tons.

Corn production, meanwhile, is seen to reach 2.73 million metric tons, up 5 percent from 2.6 million metric tons last year.

This despite rains and cold weather in January, followed by a dry spell which started in February, which adversely affected palay and corn production.

The government is counting on the planting of corn and palay in more areas to boost production this year.

Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap also said in an earlier briefing that the DA would strive to put in place the infrastruc-

PALAY/B5

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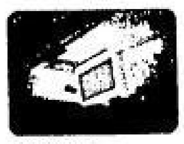
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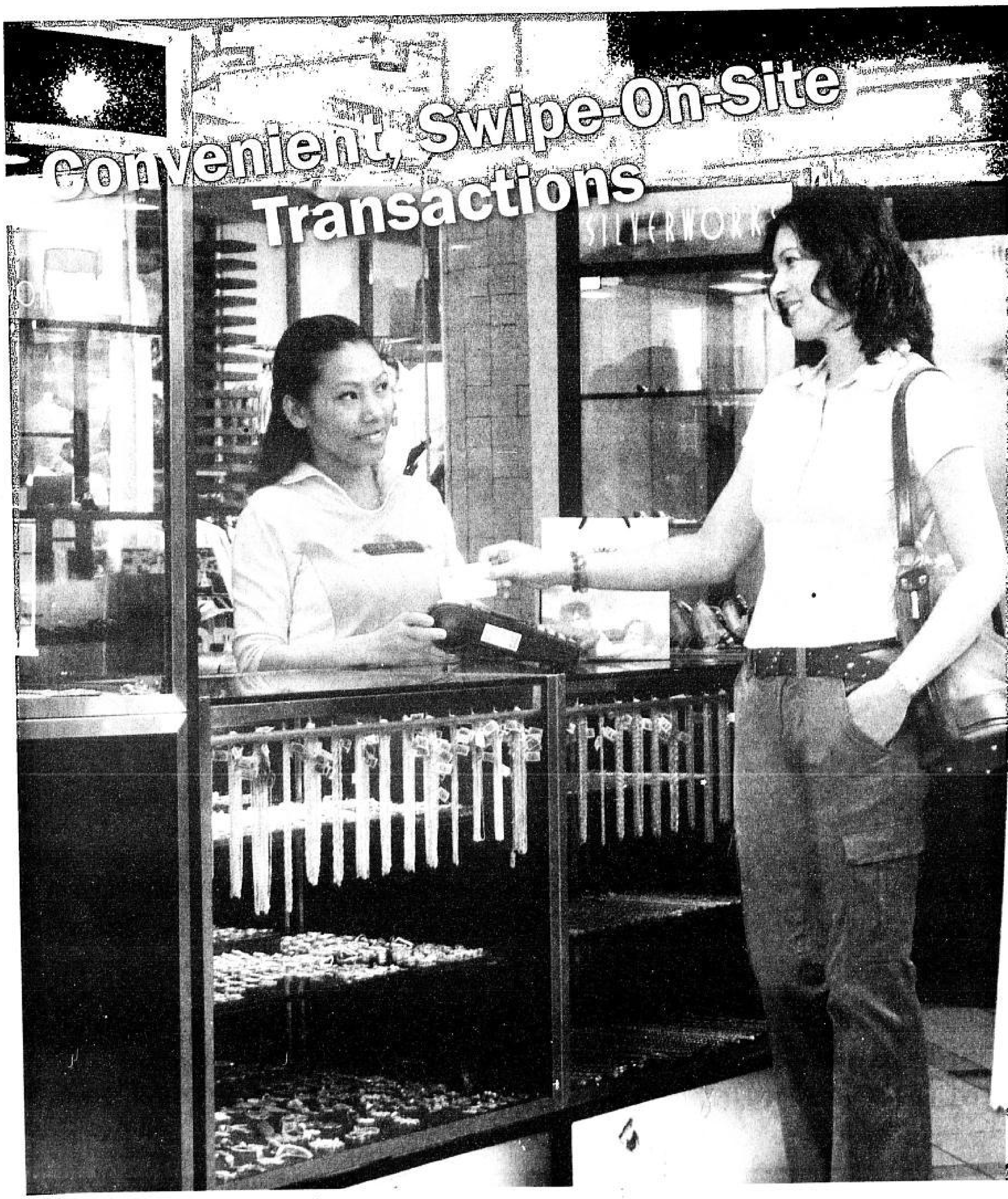

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BUSINESS Friday
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

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Exec vows to keep team's creative juices flowing

CASTRO'S many moods

MCCANN WorldGroup chief creative officer Raul Castro

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

A ROOM IS NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR Raul M. Castro, chief creative officer of local advertising giant McCann WorldGroup Philippines Inc.

With his boundless energy, Castro cannot sit still, moving from one chair to another, especially if he's in "the zone" and caught in the grip of helping create that next big advertising campaign for McCann's blue-chip clients.

Such enthusiasm never fails to infect the rest of the McCann group, thanks in part to Castro's booming voice that is not exactly easy to ignore.

"I shout if I have an idea and pray if I don't," says an animated Castro in an interview at his Makati office overlooking busy Ayala Avenue.

Castro tells Business Friday that his passion for his craft has not waned since 1986 when he made his first radio commercial for Palmolive, soon after graduating with a degree in Mass Communications from the University of the Philippines.

His passion is stoked, he says, by the never-ending challenge to find that "big" idea that will create significant demand for the products or ser-

EXEC/B2-2

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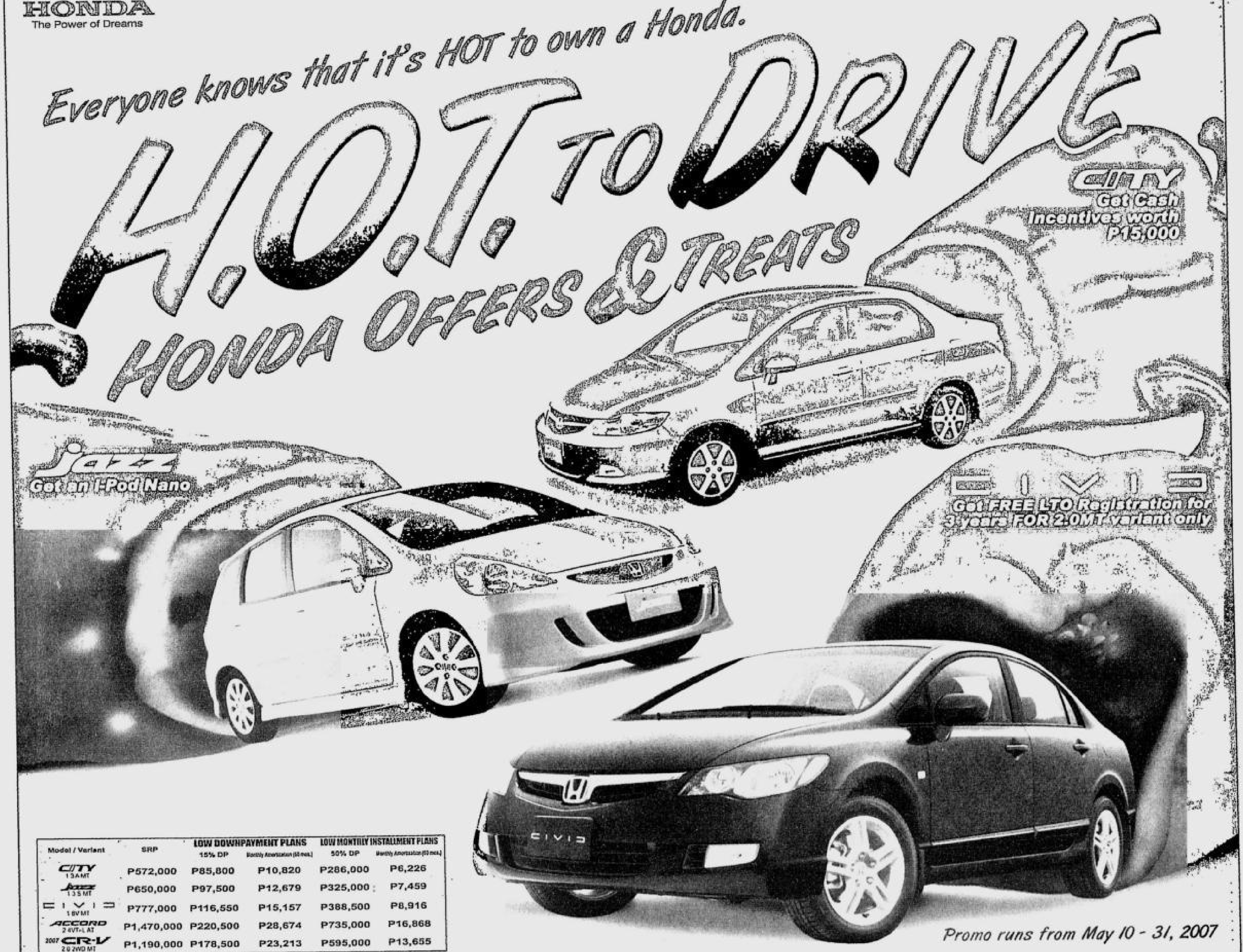
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Jazz 1.3 S MT	P650,000	P97,500	P12,679	P325,000	P7,459
CIVIC 1.8V MT	P777,000	P116,550	P15,157	P388,500	P8,916
ACCORD 2.4VT-i L AT	P1,470,000	P220,500	P28,674	P735,000	P16,868
2007 CR-V 2.0 2WD MT	P1,190,000	P178,500	P23,213	P595,000	P13,655

*All plans are subject to bank approval (BPI Family Savings Bank and RCBC Savings Bank)

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Honda Cars Pasig	Tel No: (02) 634 2730, Fax No: 637 2962
Honda Cars Quezon City, Inc.	Tel Nos.: (02) 712 6850 to 61, Fax No.: 732 8559
Honda Cars Shaw	Tel No: (02) 717 1681, Fax No: 725 7073
Honda Cars Manila	Tel No: (02) 562 4548, Fax No.: 564 7336
Honda Cars Fairview	Tel Nos.: (02) 9352655, 9352617, Fax No: 9357664
Honda Cars Marikina	Tel. Nos.: (02) 9426202, 9980512, Fax No: 9423561

Provincial

Honda Cars Pangasinan, Inc.	Tel. Nos.: (075) 5221488 to 89 Fax No.: (075) 5173739
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Rural development goes organic

FAO says natural food no longer a fad

By Amy R. Remo

EV ESPIRITU/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

ORGANIC food means more money for farmers.

ORGANIC FOOD IS NO longer just an expensive fad for health buffs, but a tool to feed millions of people around the world.

According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, recent models of global food supply have shown that it is possible to feed the global population through organic agriculture.

"These models suggest that organic agriculture has the potential to secure a global food supply, just as conventional agriculture is today, but with reduced environmental impact," says FAO in a paper entitled "Organic Agriculture and Food Security."

The paper was presented during the International Conference on Organic Agriculture and Food-Security held in Rome earlier this month.

Organic culture is defined by FAO as a "holistic production management system that avoids the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and genetically modified organisms."

'Holistic system'

This system is said to help preserve the environment since it minimizes air, soil and water pollution.

According to the paper, organic culture is no longer a phenomenon limited to developed countries, as it is commercially practiced in 120 countries, represents 31 million hectares of plantation and serves a $40-billion market as of 2006.

In the Philippines, the Department of Trade and Industry is already taking steps to promote and strengthen the presence of its organic and natural products in key markets such as the United States, Europe, Japan and the Middle East.

With its wealth of agricultural resources, the country is poised to ride the global organic wave, as emphasis on wellness and responsible consumerism, and the demand for natural and organic food and health products grow worldwide.

Some of the most promising exports in this sector are muscovado sugar, virgin coconut oil, banana chips and natural food supplements.

Last year, small- and medium-sized exporters of organic and natural food products earned about $19 million from the 32 trade fairs and missions facilitated by DTI's Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions.

Shifting preference

Earlier, FAO studies also indicated a shift in consumer preferences to organic food.

In Japan, organic food sales are rising due to consumers' concern over food poisoning outbreaks, genetically modified corn entering the food chain, mad cow disease and food labeling fraud.

According to FAO's recent organic agriculture paper, the strongest feature of organic agriculture is its reliance on tools, equipment and assets already used in today's agriculture.

It also doesn't need "fuel-dependent" materials such as commercial fertilizers.

It is for this reason that FAO, through its paper, has called on governments to "allocate resources for organic agriculture and to integrate its objectives and actions within their respective national agricultural development and poverty reduction strategies."

There are, however, some requirements when converting to organic agriculture, which include knowledge in agroecology and labor availability.

Considered as the science of sustainable agriculture, agroecology entails the application of ecological concepts to agriculture.

Examples of ecological concepts are ecosystems, agriculture, fisheries, biodiversity, the interaction of various organisms and their respective habitats.

"Organic management is a knowledge-based approach requiring understanding of agroecological processes and this factor remains a constraint if and where labor is scarce, such as in populations devastated by HIV/AIDS," says FAO.

FAO expert Nadia Scialabba says, however, that rural livelihoods are still safeguarded.

Employment opportunities

In fact, organic agriculture is seen to provide farmers various employment opportunities with higher financial returns, given the higher value of their crops.

FAO also stresses the investment in human resource development and skills training in organic agriculture as part of sustainable development strategies.

The paper also recognizes that "most certified organic food production in developing countries [usually] goes to export."

Thus, when the proposed agroecological improvements are linked to crops yielded from ordinary agricultural practices, the result can be a much needed improvement in food self-sufficiency and revitalization of small holder agriculture.

"By managing biodiversity through crop rotations and mixed cropping, organic farmers are able to maximize their labor and environmental services to intensify production," the paper adds.

Exec vows to keep team's creative juices flowing

From page B2-1

vices of the client.

Such big ideas are understandably hard to come by, Castro says, but what helps McCann in the search is its intimate knowledge of the target market—its insight into what makes people tick.

McCann knows, for instance, that Filipinos have a high regard for their family; that they love a bargain but do not want to call themselves cheap; that nothing beats the relationship between a mother and her child, and that they have a healthy respect for the supernatural.

These "universal truths," as Castro calls them, have enabled McCann to execute effective advertising campaigns for brands such as Coke, San Miguel Beer, Johnson and Johnson, Jollibee, Nestle and Bank of the Philippine Islands.

"The challenge is to find the insight first, before the creative acrobatics and the visual gymnastics," Castro says.

He says advertising companies such as McCann have to mine deeper for that human insight because consumers today are bombarded by so many advertising messages—from the brand on their cereal boxes, to the billboards along the highway and the advertisements on print, radio and television.

With so much data, it is harder these days for a particular print ad or television commercial to stand head and shoulders above the rest.

Castro, however, says that McCann has been fortunate enough to produce commercials that strike a chord with the market because the people behind the creative process are out there finding that crucial insight and universal truth leading to the next big idea.

And it is his job as creative director of the group to oversee the "creative health and wealth" of the people to keep those great ideas coming.

As such, Castro, who assumed his new post in February this year, says he has to perform different roles—a fan, coach, parent, friend or a boss—to suit the needs of his people, whom he refers to as the "geese that lay golden eggs."

"Since they're the geese, you don't want to constipate them, you want them to keep laying the golden eggs," Castro says.

Thus, as a manager, Castro says that he lets his people do what they feel they have to—including working at home, or going out on field work—to get the job done, as long as they are in the office for meetings and their habits do not inconvenience the other members of the McCann team.

He preaches the value of going out to where the people are—malls, cafes, buses, jeepneys, the MRT—because that is the only way to get a feel of what they think and value, which will again go into finding that human insight.

He, himself, still goes out there and breaks away from the four walls of his office.

"Or else, I will be asking the sofa for ideas," Castro says with his trademark belly laugh.

And that won't do for Castro who has churned big ideas of his own, the most notable of which would by the phenomenal Surf campaign—which was during his stint as executive creative director at Lowe Lintas. This campaign catapulted the previously lowly regarded brand into a market leader in its category.

"I cannot say Surf is my favorite ad, but I cannot understate the bigness of the campaign," Castro says. "I am proud to be associated with the brand. It was a privilege to lead the people behind the ad."

It's a tall order to meet, if not surpass, the success of Surf but Castro is confident that with the wealth of knowledge behind McCann, it can—and will—be done.

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Advertising to invade world of mobile phones

By Riza T. Olchondra

MOBILE phone users will soon receive ads on their phones

THE ADVENT OF 3G PROMISES to be as groundbreaking in terms of advertising as the Internet was in the mid-1990s, and companies have to consider launching commercials for mobile TV programs to get ahead of the wave.

According to Patricio Pineda III, Globe Telecom Vice-president for business planning and strategy, while mobile advertising is still in its infancy, it is showing great revenue potential, and Globe is ready to provide the connectivity needed for its growth. Pineda explains that there are over two billion mobile phone users in the world, compared to 1.5 television viewers and one billion Internet users.

In the Philippines alone, some 44 percent of the entire population has a mobile phone—a total of 35 million subscribers.

"The high mobile penetration in the country makes it a more promising ground for brands to create connections with Filipinos than, say, the Internet—especially since this is an archipelago where topography and low PC penetration has long prevented wired access," says Pineda.

3G technology merges familiar telecommunications solutions such as voice and SMS with new services such as video calling and sharing, entertainment on-the-go, and mobile broadband Internet access.

Thus, Pineda says, services that used to be associated with science fiction are taking place.

Italian telecom 3, for example, introduced live World Cup broadcasts via its 3G video streaming service.

The Big Brother franchise, meanwhile, reported selling six million streaming minutes of behind-the-scenes action to 3G subscribers across continents in the UK, Italy, and Australia.

In the Philippines, Globe offered exclusive made-for-mobile video streaming coverage of the World Cup through an exclusive partnership with international sports channel ESPN to its subscribers.

"Imagine, you can now dial into your own personal Internet connection to websites, watch the NBA finals, or download the latest MP3s all through your cellphone anywhere you are," he says.

Consultancy company Visiongain agrees that the mobile phone is a rich new advertising platform.

"The mobile phone is a personal device that most people carry with them 24 hours a day. It affords advertisers an opportunity to present very targeted and time-sensitive information that is of interest to the user," says Visiongain media analyst Marcia Kaplan.

Another advantage of the mobile phone, according to Kaplan, is the ability to collect (with customer permission) important demographic and behavioral information that could be used to hone the marketing message.

Pineda says that the key value of marketing using mobile 3G technology is its interactivity at such an unprecedented personal level.

He says statistics indicate that as much as 60 percent of all mobile users actually sleep with their mobile phones.

This shows, according to Pineda, the sustained level of interaction associated with mobile phones in contrast with other devices such as televisions or PCs. This opens up many avenues for advertising, which in the past may have only been the stuff of science fiction and admen's dreams.

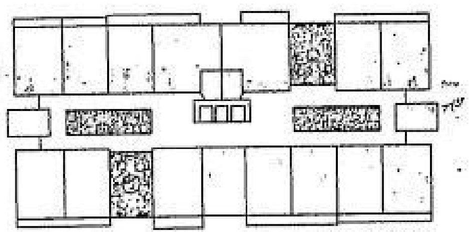
An advertiser could, for example, announce a jeans sale via video streaming to teenagers passing by its store.

"Expect that the way we interface with our mobile devices will become more and more natural. Devices will be able to respond more interactively with nearby objects. The fictional future of the 'Minority Report' is getting close at hand," Pineda says.

Here, gardening is heavenly.

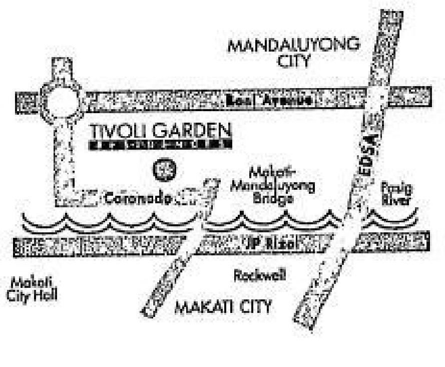
Tivoli Garden Residences redefines high-rise living.

Discover a different kind of high-rise living at Tivoli Garden Residences. Here, every 5 floors has a unique Asian Tropical Sky Patio that nurtures an invigorating sense of calm and serenity. Should you choose to stay on one of the first three levels, the open plazas bring the lush, verdant foliage even closer. To cap it off, the Sky Lounge and a rooftop garden awaits at the top of Bauhinia Tower. The first of six high-rise towers, Bauhinia has 28 floors dedicated purely to casual yet elegant residential units.



TYPICAL BUILDING FLOOR PLAN

Staying in or going out and about?
Whether you'd like to stay home or enjoy the city life, here you can have the best of both. Soak up the early morning sun or dive into the refreshing waters of the swimming pool. Go jogging along the property's running paths or shoot some hoops at the Podium. If the shopping bug hits you, or the pantry simply needs replenishing, malls are nearby. For your peace of mind, world-class hospitals like the Makati Medical Center is just a short drive away. And most importantly, school and work are just minutes away, so your time can be spent on the things that really matter.



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RESIDENCES
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After a stressful day in the urban jungle, refresh your spirits by coming home to Tivoli Garden Residences. A restful high-rise garden community nestled in Mandaluyong, here, lush Asian Tropical Sky Patios are located every 5 floors, giving residents easy access to invigorating greenery amidst the awe-inspiring skyline views. Inspired by the Tropical Modern design, key elements like four-sided domes, natural lighting, and free flowing ventilation complete the picture of a rejuvenating garden sanctuary you'd love to call home. Because you know that here, your days are sure to start and end on a relaxing note.

Call 888-3333 or visit www.dmcihomes.com for any inquiries.

Smart Living compliments of DMCI Homes
Best of all, you know you're making a Smart choice because Tivoli Garden Residences is developed and maintained by DMCI Homes, the only triple A builder / developer in the Philippines. With DMCI Homes, you know you don't have to compromise your family's well-being because you're assured of an urban-friendly, premium quality home that covers all your needs and wants.

A Smart Living concept by
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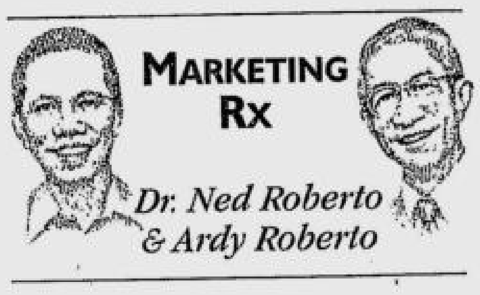
Because you know.

For Annoupcement Purposes Only

'Is coop-marketing effective?'

Doing campaigns together makes good business sense for competing companies, says Levinson



MARKETING Rx

Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

MarketingRx continues to host Jay Conrad Levinson, best-selling author of the "Guerrilla Marketing" book series (more than 14 million copies sold) as our guest columnist. We'll be featuring his columns every other week until August 2007.

Q: HOW DO WE GO ABOUT DOING TIE-UPS or coop marketing? Is it really an effective way to do marketing?

Levinson: The key to successful guerrilla marketing is in embracing not the concept of competition, but the beauty and advantage of cooperation. Fuse for fun and profit.

One of the most rewarding, inexpensive, underused, and effective methods of marketing is to tie in your marketing efforts with the efforts of others. In the US, this used to be known as "tie-ins."

A recent Business Week cover article referred to it as "Collaborative Marketing." In Japan and by guerrillas worldwide, this make-everybody-wealthy marketing tactic is called "fusion marketing."

Fusion marketing is the guerrilla saying, "Hey Sara, if you enclose my brochure in your next mailing, I'll enclose your brochure in mine." "Randy, put up a sign for my store in your business; I'll put up a sign for your business in my store."

Sara and Randy immediately see the wisdom in the guerrilla's offer. Their marketing exposure has just been expanded. Their marketing costs have just been reduced. Hey, this is a good idea! Of course it is!

Why do you think you're watching all those McDonald's commercials which turn into Coca-Cola commercials and end up as Lucasfilm commercials?

Why do you think so many members of frequent flier clubs have learned that their airlines have fused with hotel chains, auto rental companies, even cruise lines?

Because there's a whole lot of fusing going on.

It's happening very visibly among the large businesses, but it's happening more frequently among small businesses. The gas station fuses with the video store. The restaurant fuses with the clothing store.

The sporting goods store fuses with the ski area AND the tennis club AND the golf course. It's happening all over!

Many organizations that have leads know that other organizations, marketing different things, have the SAME kinds of leads. So what do guerrilla organizations do? They form Leads Clubs. At the end of each month, they trade leads. Who wins? EVERYONE. Who loses? Nobody.

That's why fusion marketing is such a HAPPENING guerrilla marketing tactic. And that's why you'll love it so much.

The purpose of a fusion marketing arrangement: Mutual profitability. Glad we're clear on that one.

Realize that almost everyone in your community is a potential fusion marketing partner, that almost all of them will see the wisdom in your suggestion of a tie-in together.

So why aren't they doing it yet, wise guy? Because YOU haven't suggested it to them.

Once you do, you'll see the utter simplicity of SPREADING your marketing wings while REDUCING your marketing costs.

OK, go out there and FUSE!

(Jay Conrad Levinson is the author of the best-selling marketing series in history, "Guerrilla Marketing," plus 30 other books which have sold 14 million copies worldwide in 41 languages. Levinson taught guerrilla marketing for 10 years at the University of California in Berkeley and practiced it in the United States—as senior vice president at J. Walter Thompson, and in Europe, as vreative firector and noard member at Leo Burnett Advertising.)

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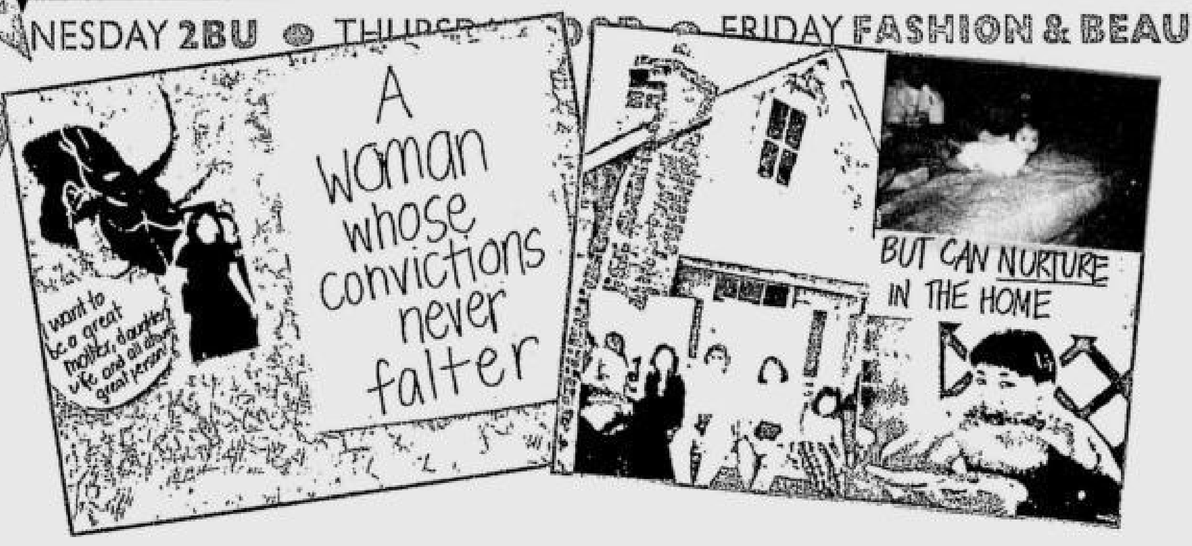

want to be a great mother, daughter, wife and all-around great person
A woman whose convictions never falter
BUT CAN NURTURE IN THE HOME

With love for Mom

What is the best Mother's Day present you've ever received? We asked these mothers and they confirmed what mothers have known through the ages: There's nothing that wraps up like love

Gina Salud Rodriguez, mother to Gino, Nica, Patty and Bianca; owner of Tango fashion boutiques
The best Mother's Day gift I got is a scrapbook my children made for me (see photos above). It had a very touching running poem about how much they appreciate me. It is also filled with pop-ups, drawings, and funny pictures of myself and my family. It's heartwarming and hilarious. I know my kids put a lot of love and effort in putting it together. I just love it!

Jeannie Goulbourn, mother to Natasha and Katrina; designer/owner of Silk Cocoon
My best Mother's Day present was the brunch my two girls cooked one Mother's Day. It was the best brunch ever! Then they took me out to buy me lots of things at Victoria's Secret. We giggled and laughed all day. The card I got from Tasha remains on my dressing table. It says she wants me to tell stories of New York to her children. I am lucky to have been so loved by two daughters. Though I will miss one, I am most grateful that the other is a pillar of support for me. Trina is loving and thoughtful. I remember she would leave notes on my mirror saying "I love you, 'night" whenever I was out for dinner.

Mikee Cojuangco, mother to Robbie and Rafael; bemedalled equestrienne
That's not the easiest question to answer since my husband and sons manage to make Mother's Day special every year, but I'd have to say my very first Mother's Day is still the one etched in my memory [and my heart]. I was so into being a [new] Mom and felt like I was not a part of this elite group of human beings, overwhelmingly blessed with the gift of being able to love another human being the way only a mother can. I was as excited as a kid on Christmas Eve! We went to Mass at the Subic Bay Yacht Club that day and roses were given out to every mother present. I was so *kilig* when the usherette handed me my rose. The icing on the cake was Dodot treating me like a queen that whole day.

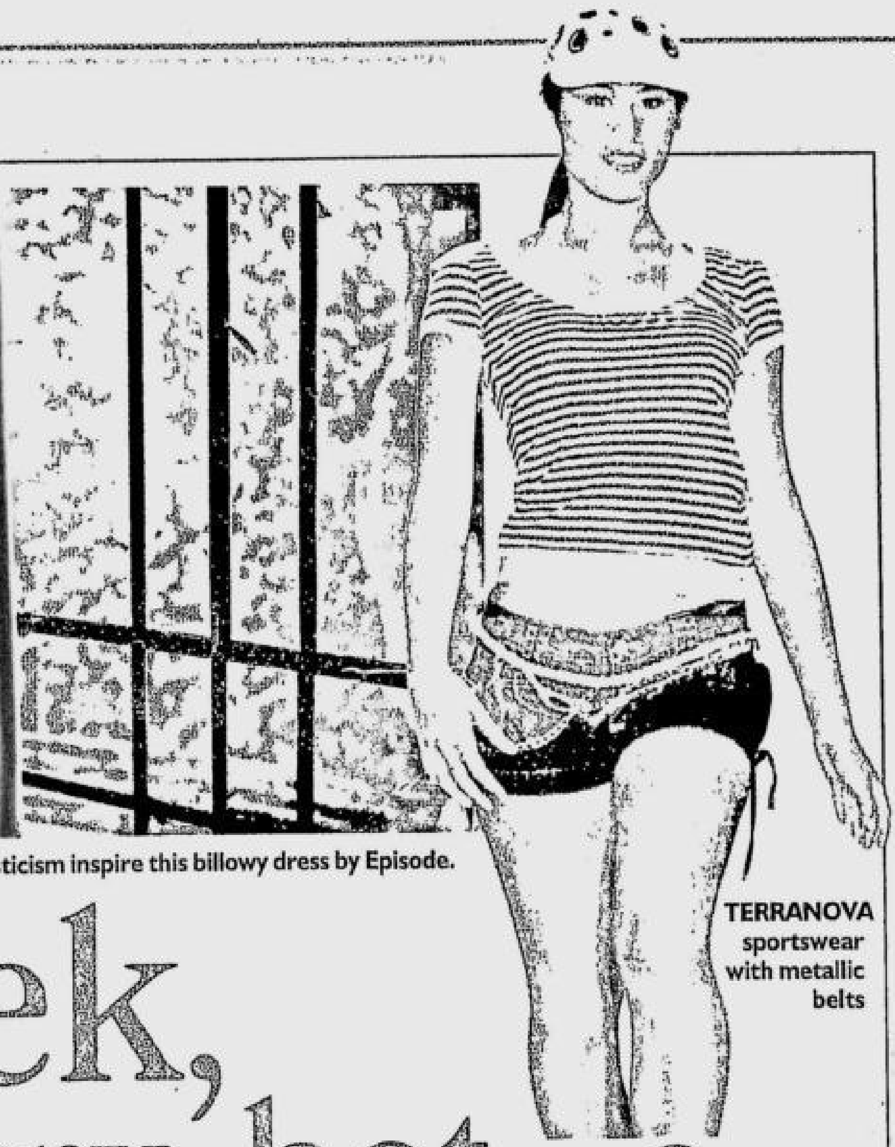
Anna Sobrepeña, mother to Gab, Raf and Mica; writer/editor
The best present is a letter from my daughter. She wrote a surprisingly eloquent and moving letter expressing her love and affection. Then there was the year we were traveling and the kids put together their meager allowance to buy me a hat I was looking at. The gift was more the thoughtfulness and the attentiveness to what they thought I wanted.

Frannie Jacinto, mother of RJ and Natalia; artist/painter
The most precious gift is my son RJ, who was born on Mother's Day almost 22 years ago in Honolulu. He has proven to be truly a gift to us. When my children were around 7 and 6 years old, they gave me a small figurine that said "I love you, Mom." Up to now I have it on my dresser and Natalia is now 23 and RJ is 21. I treasure this gift from them. When my stepdaughters were teenagers in New York in the '80s, they made a delicious breakfast in bed treat. It was a labor of love because they could not cook yet, but the meal had pancakes, bacon, fresh orange juice—the works! They worked hard to surprise me.

Tina Ocampo, mother to Bettina, Selina, Juliana and Emilio, designer/owner of Celestina bags and The Black Shop
A letter from my mother about the trials and the joys of having a big family. How my father was a hard worker, a dreamer and an achiever. About the possible challenges ahead of me because women are totally different from men. About how I should lessen my expectations about my life with Ricco so I won't be disappointed. She wrote some beautiful stories of her married life so that I can see myself through them. I still read it for reminders and guidance whenever there is a need. It reminds me of that peculiar comfort I feel every time I am with her.

PLAZA MALL
A|X
ARMANI EXCHANGE

DESERT hues and Egyptian mysticism inspire this billowy dress by Episode.


TERRANOVA sportswear with metallic belts

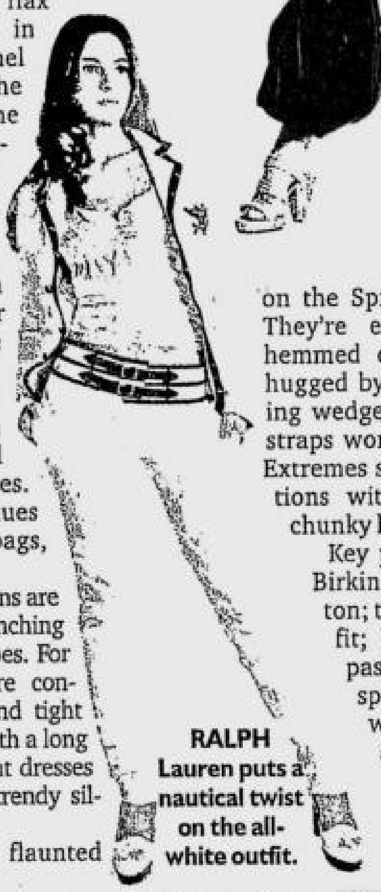
Sleek, sultry, hot

By Jessica Hermosa
Intern

MANGO'S take on the yellow trend

BURBERRY'S all-white outfit

FLORAL prints in black and white are paired with chunky heels in this A|X mini-dress ensemble.


RALPH Lauren puts a nautical twist on the all-white outfit.

KEEPING UP WITH GLOBAL FASHION trends can sometimes be a bit of a challenge for those of us nearer the equator. Fashion capitals like Paris, London, New York and Tokyo previously rolled out winter collections featuring layered styles, hobo looks and dark colors that left many a Filipina drowning in fabric and yearning for snow.

Fortunately, global fashion has taken a pragmatic turn for Spring/Summer 2007 with trends that are heat-wave ready, universally flattering and still undeniably feminine.

Light airy fabrics such as flax linen, canvas and cotton in desert colors of beige, camel and white are strong on the runways. They serve as the neutral bases for the new collections' bright colors: yellow, orange, salmon, cobalt and grass.

Prints are big and bold, with florals becoming a runway favorite. Another hot trend in color is the domino look—black-on-white contrast outfits in cotton or silk. Navy-on-white makes an appearance as well in classic nautical ensembles. The metallic palette continues to be trendy especially for bags, belts and shoes.

Silhouettes for new collections are a hybrid of structured body-cinching pieces and softer flowing shapes. For instance, slouchy trousers are contrasted with a fitted shirt, and tight thigh-high shorts are paired with a long billowy top. Balloon skirts, tent dresses and culottes emphasize this trendy silhouette.

Needless to say, legs are flaunted on the Spring/Summer runways. They're either bared in high-hemmed dresses and shorts, or hugged by slim-cut jeans. Towering wedges and nude or metallic straps work to lengthen the legs. Extremes still rule the new collections with oversized bags and chunky heels.

Key pieces include the Jane Birkin mini-dress in silk or cotton; the no-fuss all-white outfit; khaki office wear with pastel accents; and 80's-inspired sports and street wear. Practical, comfortable, with a hint of cheeky, sultry style—fashion is on your side this time.

For the fab Mom

SURPRISE MOM WITH THE PENINSULA MANILA's Mom's Ultimate Fantasy package which includes everything fabulous—from unadulterated pampering to select food and wine, to shopping for jewelry at Jul B. Dizon, and shoes and luggage at Louis Vuitton.

For P1.5 million, Mom's Ultimate Fantasy includes a three day-two night stay at The Peninsula Suite; a complimentary round-trip transfer in a brand-new Peninsula Mercedes Benz S-Class limousine; as well as complimentary bottle of Peninsula Champagne, fruit and cheese platter, large box of Peninsula chocolates; and special Mother's Day flower arrangement.

There's also complimentary special vanity basket from La Prairie Caviar Luxe Collection; salon session in Emphasis at The Peninsula Manila; eight-course dinner for two with wine in Old Manila; and champagne breakfast for two at the Peninsula Suite the following day.

Mom will also enjoy a private shopping spree at Jul B. Dizon Jewelry at The Upper Lobby of The Peninsula Manila with a P500,000 gift voucher.

Then she will be chauffeured for another private shopping session at Louis Vuitton in Greenbelt 4 with a P200,000 gift voucher where she will enjoy complimentary champagne and canapés while a dedicated shopper assists her in choosing her purchases. Upon her return, she can have complimentary Afternoon Tea for Two at The Lobby.

This super indulgent package is available until May 31.

Then there is also the I Love You Mom package on offer until May 13. Room rates start at P5,500+ per night at the Ayala Tower and P6,750+ per night at the newly renovated Makati Tower.

The package includes a window box of Peninsula chocolates; a complimentary gift from Christian Dior or Clarins cosmetics; complimentary buffet breakfast for two adults and two children below 6 years old at Nielsen's; and discounts in selected boutiques at the upscale Greenbelt and Glorietta shopping centers, Power Plant Mall and Rustan's Department Store.

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TIGER-PRINT wrap dress with puff sleeves

Animal appeal

THE CALL OF THE WILD IS MORE CAPTIVATING than ever at SM. Animal prints constitute a virtual-style safari full of exciting fashion contrasts: soft wrap dresses taking the spotlight with leopard prints; vintage prints looking fresh in today's new short silhouettes; ingenue baby-doll dresses that look grown-up with tiger prints; and tunics that float in the summer breeze.

The Animal Print collection is available at the Ladies Wear Department of all SM Stores.

JUNGLE-INSPIRED V-neck dress and wrap dress with leopard prints

Mother's Day

Constant re of love for

DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO SHOW how much you love and appreciate your mom this Mother's Day.

A kiss and a hug will, of course, be appreciated but you can also give her something she can keep to remind her of how much you care.

Hallmark has always kept the tradition of remembering special occasions like Mother's Day.

For the occasion, Hallmark has a wide range of designs to suit the different personalities and faces of moms—full-time

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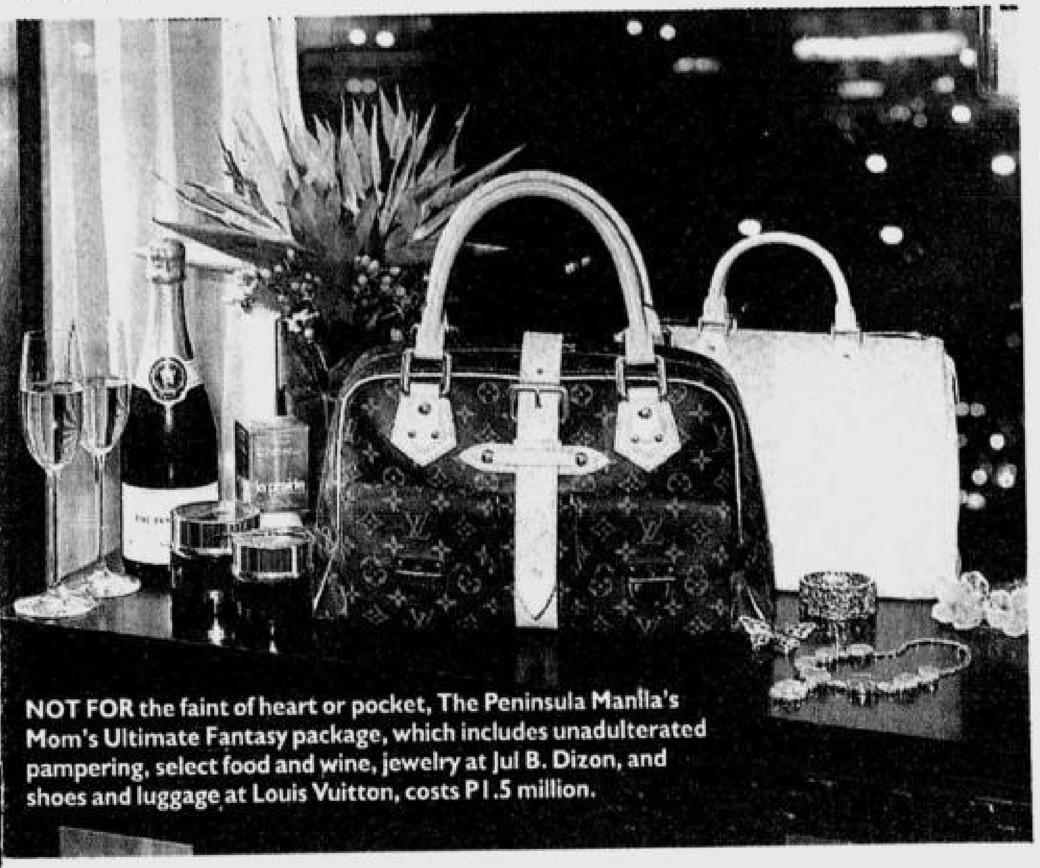


NOT FOR the faint of heart or pocket, The Peninsula Manila's Mom's Ultimate Fantasy package, which includes unadulterated pampering, select food and wine, jewelry at Jul B. Dizon, and shoes and luggage at Louis Vuitton, costs P1.5 million.

DIY flower arranging for Mother's Day

RUSTAN'S SUPERMARKETS RECENTLY conducted seminars on flower arrangements as Mother's Day gifts.

Flowers have always been popular gifts for special occasions, personalized bouquets are likely to be more appreciated than store-bought arrangements.

Rustan's Supermarkets held the series of Fresh Flower Power seminars to equip shoppers with the basics for do-it-yourself flower arranging in time for Mother's Day.

Store operations manager Cristine Villamater and florist Bong Dazo conducted the seminars in different supermarket branches.

The Fresh Flower Power seminars provided easy, step-by-step instructions plus useful tips and techniques in creating fabulous floral designs for special events.

The Rustan's FLOWER shop

BONG Dazo from Rustan's Flower Shop shows the audience at Rustan's Supermarket's Fresh Flower Power seminar how to make a simple horizontal floral arrangement that's perfect for corner or console tables.

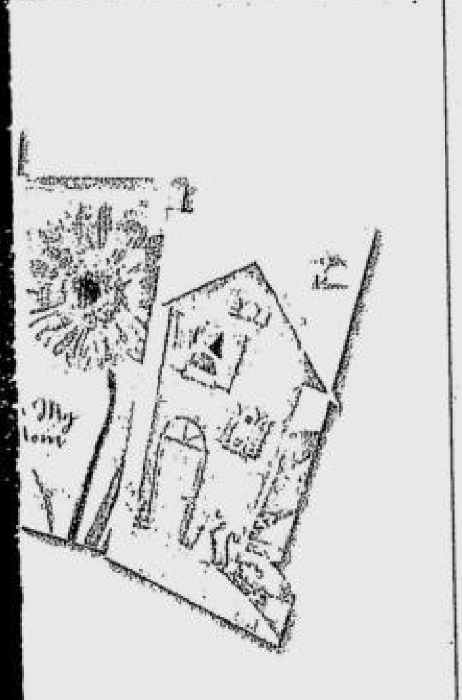
Mel Taylo and (below) Jean Pierre Migne

S OFFERING SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY

e cooking lessons to be given by the Dia-
nclude sushi-making with chef Junichi
amese flavors with chef Mel Taylo, May
tro cuisine with chef Jean Pierre Migne,
-12 noon.
lessons will get a chance to win a compli-
e Diamond's Superior suites. They also get
welmer gift certificates and a five-percent
available at the hotel's Chez Miwa.
lother's Day dining package at its Palm
n restaurant. A dinner entitles the mother
ikes and a gift certificate at the Diamond

t Palm Court, Le Bellevue or Yurakuen,
om Jewelmer and a chance to win P5,000

@diamondhotel.com.



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mom

, working moms, new moms, fash-
a moms, sporty moms and many
There are even cards for mothers
re big readers—a free bookmark can
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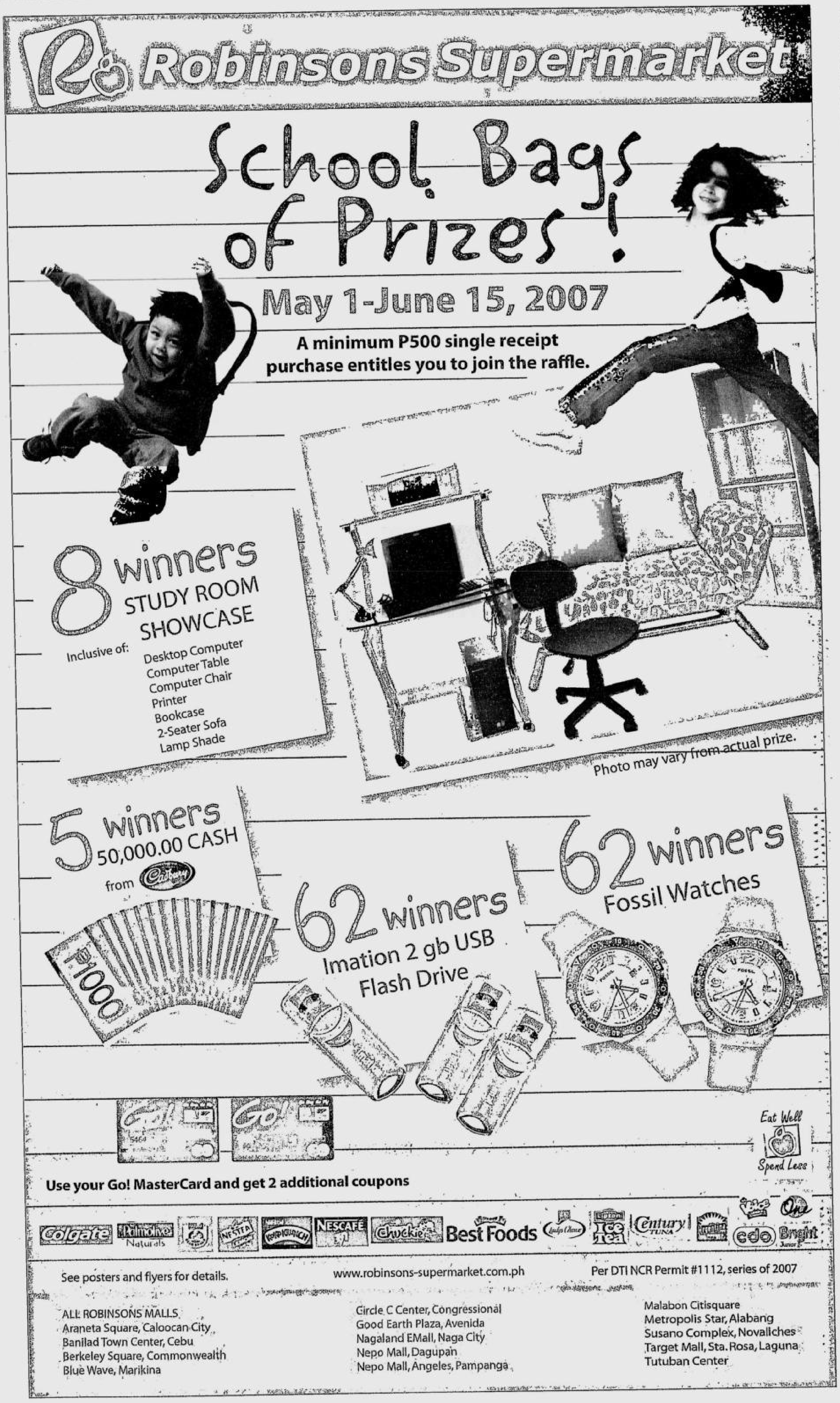
eting cards still rank as one of the
popular Mother's Day presents. Even
s moms are touched by the imagery
oughts conveyed by a greeting card.
lmark Cards are exclusively dis-
ed by Filstar Distributors Corp. and
ble at all National Book Store
hes and select gift shops nationwide.



Robinsons Supermarket

School Bags of Prizes!

May 1-June 15, 2007

A minimum P500 single receipt purchase entitles you to join the raffle.

8 winners STUDY ROOM SHOWCASE
Inclusive of: Desktop Computer
Computer Table
Computer Chair
Printer
Bookcase
2-Seater Sofa
Lamp Shade

Photo may vary from actual prize.

5 winners 50,000.00 CASH from Cadbury

62 winners Imation 2 gb USB Flash Drive

62 winners Fossil Watches

Use your Go! MasterCard and get 2 additional coupons

Eat Well Spend Less

Colgate Palmolive Naturals Nestea Nescafé Chuckie Best Foods Lady's Choice Lipton Ice Tea Century Tuna edo One Bright Junior

See posters and flyers for details.
www.robinsons-supermarket.com.ph
Per DTI NCR Permit #1112, series of 2007

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Good Earth Plaza, Avenida
Nagaland EMall, Naga City
Nepo Mall, Dagupan
Nepo Mall, Angeles, Pampanga
Malabon Citisquare
Metropolis Star, Alabang
Susano Complex, Novaliches
Target Mall, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tutuban Center

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GOINGS ON

Mother's Day and other May events

ODON SABARRE, artist in residence of Region 8 who conducts, with his daughter Pearly Dawn, the dance scholarship programs of Leyte and Samar, has released his summer class schedules: Monday-Wednesday, Tacloban City; Friday, Calbiga, Leyte; Saturday, Baybay, Leyte; and Sunday, Catbalogan, Samar.

NOELLE CASSANDRA, A FILIPINO-CHINESE from Vancouver, Canada, will perform on Mother's Day, 7 p.m., at Chef's Avenue of Festival Supermall. Cassandra's self-titled debut album is also available in stores now. It features her own compositions, arrangements and vocals. Festival Supermall is at Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa (tel. 8503514 and 8503515; www.festivalsupermall.com.ph).

CONCERT. Shangri-La Plaza presents noted violinist Jay Cayuca in a concert for mothers featuring well-loved songs on May 11, 7 p.m., at its Grand Atrium. Michael Williams, Ana Feleo and Cris Villonco will be featured in "Songs My Mother Taught Me," a mix of classical and Broadway music, May 12, 7 p.m., also at the Grand Atrium (tel. 6337851-70).

DEMO. Starmall Edsa marks Mother's Day and womanhood in general with several activities. On May 13, mothers are invited to join the Mom's Day Pangkabuhayan Demo at the second level activity area. Contests, raffles and a special mall tour by international artist Amy Cruz will complete Starmall's tribute to mothers. On May 20 is the grand finals of Little Miss Jollibee. Grand finals for the first Star Babe is on May 26. On May 31, Starmall will announce the winning boutique in its Summer Dress Up Your Store Contest (tel. 7244992).

CORA Manimbo started designing clothes for her friends upon their request. Little did she know that she would eventually be involved in the fashion industry. She recently opened House of Fashion in Marikina. Her clientele includes members of the diplomatic circle, government officials, members of Congress and business organizations. She also has clients from other Asian countries, the United States and Europe.

PINOY WANNABE. An Orange Carpet and Preview Party will be held May 26 at Aliw Theater as a prelude to Nickelodeon's Kids' Choice Awards' 20th anniversary. Kids can take part in this event by voting for the Pinoy Wannabe 2007, the person they most want to be like. This year's nominees for Pinoy Wannabe 2007 are singer Christian Bautista, ABS-CBN primetime's drama prince John Lloyd Cruz, GMA7's TV-movie heroine and commercial model Angel Locsin, singer and "Super Inggo" star Makisig Morales, and the original Miss Saigon, world-class performer Lea Salonga. Voting forms are available at Toy Kingdom branches until May 13.

URBAN BAZAAR. Rockwell's Power Plant Mall will hold Urban Market, a Mother's Day bazaar, May 12-13 at the Rockwell Tent. The bazaar will feature a wide variety of products from established brands, young entrepreneurs and new players in retail. Participants include Tammy Tan, Hale Bob, Baubles, Bangles n' Beads, Miss Glam, Silly Me Clothing, Julena, Tantease, Ichigo Shoes, Willow Works, and Beads and Beyond.

ROBOTICS CAMP. De La Salle University-Manila College of Computer Studies invites all new high-school graduates to the Robotics Camp May 17-19 at the Gokongwei Building inside the DLSU-Manila campus. The workshop includes robotic training and a culminating competition (tel. 5234357, e-mail gonzalezje@dlsu.edu.ph).

HIGH-SCHOOL REUNION. Class '82 of Colegio del Buen Consejo High School will hold its silver jubilee and grand class reunion July 28, 3 p.m., at the Tektite Tower Function Hall, Ortigas (tel. 0927-9178288; groups.yahoo.com/groups/CBC_HS_1982Batch).

PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation is offering four-day basic and advanced photography courses every Sunday starting June 3. Classes will be held at Rm. 302-A, Femii Bldg., A. Soriano Ave., Intramuros, Manila. Professor Cecilia Angelis, Vic Sison and Ador Pamintuan will teach camera handling, critique, posing and composition, basic lighting, and product shoot for the basic course (tel. 5247576, 5280371 or 5255792).

FLORAL DEMO. International floral designer Anson Low of Singapore will conduct a demonstration, "Floral Revolution," May 19-20, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at Quezon City Sports Club, E. Rodriguez Ave., QC. On the first day, Low will execute the latest designs and techniques in wedding floral arrangements. The second day will be devoted to futuristic flower arrangements plus the styles and techniques of constructions to enhance and make flower arrangements unique and stylish. Call 8140847, 4152655, 6371140 and 9294114.

CHEAP IDD CALLS. With Sun Cellular's IDD Top 10, people can call loved ones and friends in 10 overseas destinations: mainland United States, China, Hong Kong, Canada, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Guam, and Macau at US$0.10 per minute. Sun Cellular postpaid subscribers can avail of the service by dialing 200 or visiting the nearest Sun Shop. Prepaid subscribers can buy a Sun IDD Top 10 call card from the Sun Shop, retail outlet or via e-Pin, Xpress Load or SMS. A P100 IDD Top 10 load will provide about 20 minutes of IDD talk time (www.suncellular.com.ph; hotline 200 or 3958000).

MOTHER'S DAY PACKAGE. The Bellevue Hotel (7718181) offers Mom's Weekend Getaway for Mother's Day until May 14. Special room rates are P8,000, Executive Suite; P14,000, Premiere Suite; and P16,000, Bellevue Suite. The package includes buffet breakfast at Café d'Asie, 20-percent discount on spa service, complimentary bottle of sparkling wine at Café d'Asie for every group of four, gift certificate for an overnight stay in a Deluxe Room, complimentary use of gym, among others.

SPECIAL TREAT. Avail of the Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club's Mother's Day package. For P4,700, the package includes overnight room accommodation for two adults and two children (12 years and below), set breakfast for two, one-hour use of the badminton or tennis court for the family, or a foot or body massage for mom. She can also have a feng shui consultation or attend the vegetable carving and flower arrangement workshops. Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club is in Lipa, Batangas, tel. 8937024 loc. 251/220 or 043-4043000; website www.malarayat.com.

SA BAWAT PATAK NG PAGSASAMA

Pag nagsama-sama ang mga magkakaibigan, di mo talaga masusukat ang ligaya. Sa lakas ng tawa at ngiting hanggang tainga, alam mo na walang makapipigil sa saya. Para sa iyo, at sa mga sandaling kailangang buhay na buhay ka sa gitna ng bawat kuwento, handog namin ang Nestea
Dagdag pa rito ang halos tatlumpung inuming pamawi-uhaw, pampalusog, pamparelax at pampasigla.
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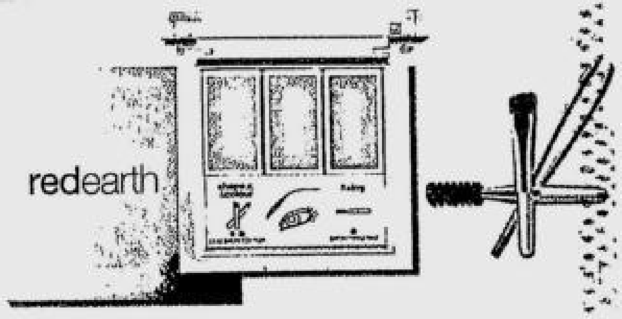
BEAUTY

GET luscious lips with the handy Cote d'Azure Lip Duo.

NEW IN THE MARKET

Beauty made easy



CREATE a "sunset glamour" look with Red Earth's easy-to-use products.

By Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE countless, even infinite, makeup products in the local market, Red Earth president Stephan Borchert is very optimistic about the brand's success in the Philippines. Founded in Australia in 1989, previously sold in Cinderella but now available in Beauty Bar outlets, Red Earth sales in the last two weeks since it reopened in Manila have been, as Borchert puts it, quite well.

"The Philippine market is a very specific market. Very much polarized between luxury or prestige and mass. Mass is huge and prestige is still, let's say, comparatively small. But I believe that 'masstige' and prestige will grow significantly in the future," says Borchert.

Red Earth falls under "masstige" (the middle ground between mass and prestige) and is positioned quite well in the Beauty Bar environment, which gives a prestige feel but offers items from the masstige market and up.

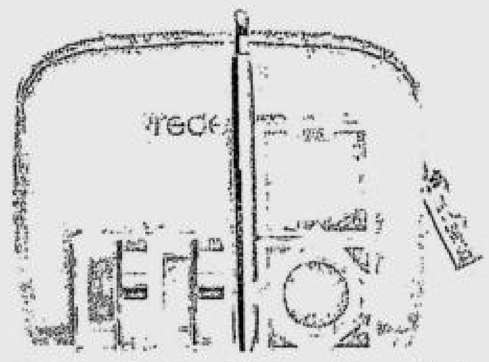
But Red Earth's subsequent success can be attributed to two distinct values that make it different from other cosmetic brands. One is the promise of "premium beauty made easy." "We try to enable consumers to achieve very professional makeup, all the latest trends, looks, in very easy ways. We want to be accessible and uncomplicated," says Borchert.

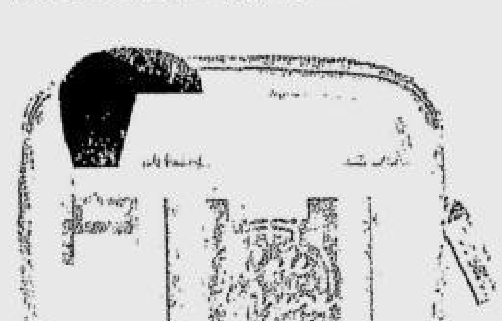
This translates to some products that offer application tips, which are usually embossed in the product packaging. "Our absolute brows compact, for example, have all the tools coming with it. We just try to find easy and uncomplicated solutions for professional makeup," he adds.

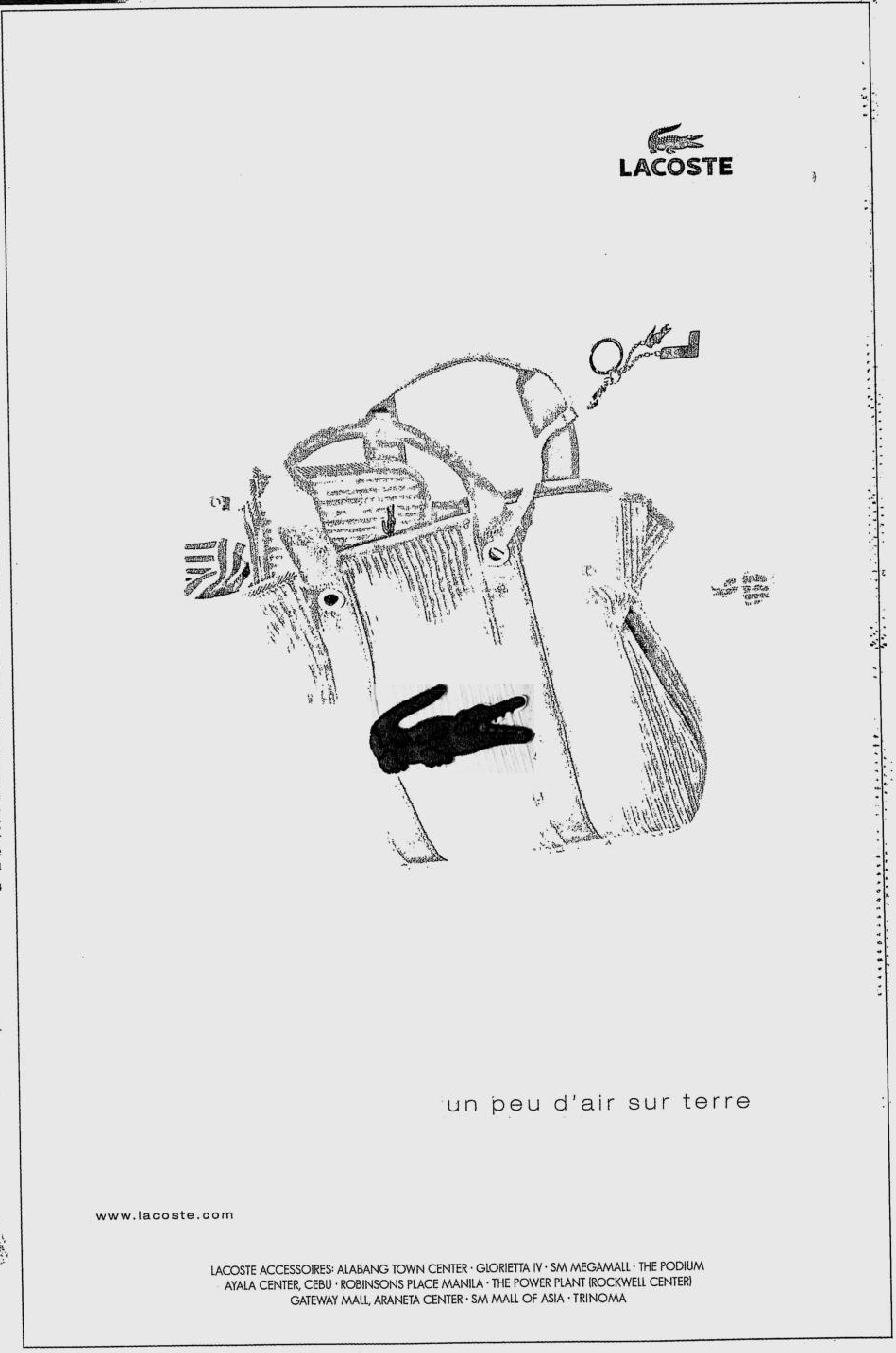
The second advantage of Red Earth cosmetics is their undeniable fashion link. The brand obviously takes inspiration from the latest trends. "Our collections are very close to fashion. We get our inspiration from the catwalks and from designers," says Borchert.

Based in Hong Kong, Red Earth has 10 Asian markets of distribution, to date, with China and the US as its biggest markets. As such, legitimate consumer concerns like products aimed more for Caucasians rather than Asians are easily addressed by Borchert: "We definitely make sure that the product development is not focusing but definitely taking care of the Asian market. So in terms of color selections, textures, formulations, we make sure the Asian markets are covered. And you

BEAUTY/D4


GET a healthy glow with Cote d'Azure blush that comes in a pretty gold purse.


ACHIEVE professionally groomed-looking eyebrows with Absolute Brows Compact.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AT OPERATION Smiles dinner: China's Cosmetics Queen Yue Sai Kan; cosmetic surgeon Dr. Vivina Chiu; Chadleen Ladoo, Operation Smile beneficiary; and Architect Conrad Onglao

MAITLAND Smith Group: Raymund Lo; Ann Carey and husband Edward Carey, president of Smith Group; and Geraldine Lo

TAIPAN Carlos Yeung with his wife, Mariquita Salimbangon Yeung, grand hostess of the two-day affair, in her beige gown by Cary Santiago; with their son, Martin

JOJO Zabarte; Amparito Lhuillier wearing a creation of her daughter Monique; and Charina Zaragoza

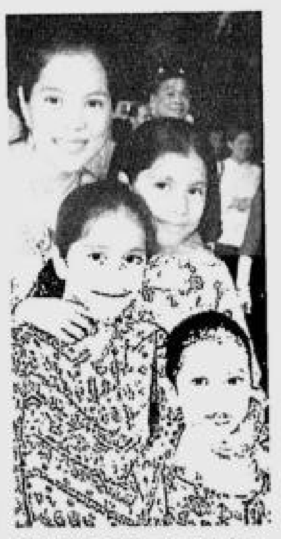
DR. VINCENT Tamaritz and Dominique Regal

DR. HAN Kai, cosmetic surgeon from China, and Dr. James Joaquino

Something to smile about

FRANCISCO Cacho of Gaudi Resto; with Ging Madrigal and her husband, BPI president Gigi Montinola; and Alexandra Cacho of Gaudi

GIRLIE Rodis with Miriam Katigbak, EVP, Ayala Land, Inc.; and Cathy Bengzon, division manager, marketing services, Ayala Land-Ayala Malls Group


KITKAT Zobel with her daughters Natasha, Sylvia and Katya

MERCEDITA Nolledo, EVP, Ayala Land, Inc.; Jan Bengzon, AVP, Ayala Land, Inc.; Jim Ayala, president, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation and Ayala Land, Inc.

RAFFY Prats, GM of Timezone; with Jun Bisnar, head of commercial operations, Fort Bonifacio Development Corp.

CORA Dizon, VP finance, Ayala Land-Ayala Malls Group; Gigi and Paul Daza; and Liza Tango, department manager, Ayala Land-Ayala Malls Group

DITAS Villareal, Gary Palmani of Guava, Carlyn Salud of Krispy Kreme, and Nelia Dee of Guava

OPERATION SMILES PHILIPPINES was founded by the golden-hearted philanthropist **Mariquita "Kit" Salimbangon Yeung** in 1998. With her husband, taipan **Carlos Yeung**, they put up 10 health centers all over Cebu to help 300 poor kids suffering from harelip and cleft palate condition, *palanggas*.

To cap the week-long activity of Operation Smiles Philippines, the Mariquita Salimbangon Yeung Foundation hosted an elegant dinner party. Mariquita herself hosted the dinner at her gorgeous hill-top mansion overlooking Cebu City. The dinner coincided with her birthday. Carlos and their good-looking England-educated son, **Martin**, made sure that the happening would be nothing less than spectacular, *palanggas*.

The doctors, who had come from the United States, China, Australia, Brazil, United Kingdom, South Africa and the Philippines, had been honored in a separate event the night before at the provincial governor's banquet hall. It was touching when the children, who had been surgically treated for their harelip and cleft palate conditions, performed a song number as a tribute to the doctors and volunteers who gave their services for free.

Kit and Carlos Yeung tendered their own dinner for the doctors and health workers. To show their appreciation for their gracious hosts, the doctors gave a song number accompanied by a live string quartet, which continued playing till the party ended.

It was a *tres* formal elegant affair, and the hostess was radiant in an elegant champagne tulle gown especially designed for her by talented Cebu designer **Cary Santiago**, who also designed the stunning gowns of other invitees such as **Via Marquez Hoffman**, **Vivian Riechle**, **Tess Schoefer**, and Cebu's young and fashionable Governor **Gwen Garcia**, no less, dahlings.

Fashion plates in attendance included the lady in red, vivacious **Mayenne Carmona** who wore a strapless **Auggie Cordero** gown; Spanish beauty **Charina Zaragoza**, sporting a green lace number by **Jun Escario**; statuesque **Jojo Zabarte**, who was complimented by many for her long gold gown; and **Amparito Lhuillier** and daughter-in-law **Joanna**, who were in **Monique Lhuillier** creations.

Champagne was overflowing, the buffet was excellent and the invitees were beautiful!

To adorable Kit Yeung, here's wishing you the best of everything that you always share with the less fortunate. Cheers, *palanggas*.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using **Kodak** EasyShare system

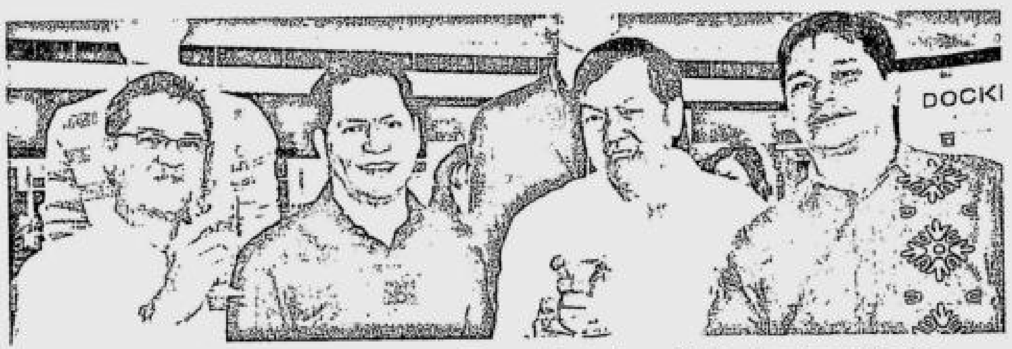
MAYENNE Carmona in her Auggie Cordero outfit

VIA Marquez Hoffman in a gown by Cary Santiago

TESS Schoefer in another chic Cary Santiago gown

GOV. Gwen Garcia

ANGELITO Borgador with Mariquita Yeung



LEVI Strauss Philippines country manager Ramon Martelino with Dockers brand leader Bobet Romualdo, Spencer's Tony Sy and Levi Strauss national sales manager John Medalla

New Fort address

"This is not your regular thoroughfare," remarked Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation (FBDC) and Ayala Land, Inc. (ALI) president **Jim Ayala**, in describing Bonifacio High Street (BHS), a new development in Taguig, *palanggas*.

Occasion was the formal opening of BHS's second and third blocks, that featured over 150 merchants and a cool park for recreation and relaxation.

High Street actually begins at the popular Serendra which opened last year. The ultimate plan is to develop the entire stretch into, would you believe, a one-kilometer lush, landscaped, pedestrian-friendly park.

Ayala also said: "It will create an environment that is "a home of passionate minds, and a sanctuary that will uplift mind and spirit, that others around the world would say, 'What I want is something like what is found in the Philippines.'"

Good-looking Taguig Mayor **Freddie R. Tinga** poured water on a sculpture that lighted up in colors to get the grand party on the roll, dahlings.

During that exciting happening, there were several bashes with their own unique theme, simultaneously happening in the different zones covering the entire stretch of Bonifacio High Street.

The project is being developed by Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation, a partnership between Ayala Land, Inc., Evergreen Holdings, and Bases Conversion and Development Authority.

Distinguished by its own eye-catching contemporary architecture, its awesome spacious walkways and stunning sculptures by three acclaimed Filipino artists, BHS is now called the "new day city center," dahlings.

San Francisco fashion

Dockers San Francisco's New Luxury concept was unveiled at Robinsons Galleria recently.

Checking out the latest menswear collection from Dockers were commercial model **Vanessa Pastor**, Dockers' **Joan de Guzman**, **Minette Cuison** and **Grace Ibsernas**, RPA People & Parties' **Carlo Sumayao** and publicist **Philip Abadicio**.

Après tons of cocktails, finger food, fashion chit-chat with events director **Robbie Carmona** and Metro Him editor **Carlo Tadiar**, we sat back and watched the Dockers San Francisco endorsers for the "Khaki Evolution." Models included entrepreneur and car lover **Pepot Geraldez**, sports commentator **Chino Trinidad**, TV personality **TJ Manotoc**, and property developer/yoga teacher **RJ Ledesma**.

The Dockers San Francisco store is more than a location. It's a relaxed state of mind, the casual freedom of people who feel good. But most of all, it's about people who are beautiful inside.

COMMERCIAL model Vanessa Pastor with Dockers event host RJ Ledesma and Alora Guerrero

Big bash in Bulgaria

It was a gathering of hotshots from all over Europe, dahlings, when the Republic of Bulgaria celebrated its formal entry as the 27th member state of the European Union, by hosting a lavish party for all of its ambassadors, consuls and honorary consuls at the ravishing Winter Garden at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sofia, Bulgaria, *palanggas*.

This happening was hosted by none other than the minister of foreign affairs and concurrent deputy prime minister, **Ivailo Kalfin**.

Moi was told that as part of the celebration, the honorary consuls and their spouses were brought to key cultural and historical landmarks around Bulgaria, which included St. Alexander Nevky Cathedral, National Ethnographic Museum, National Museum of History, National Art Gallery and the fantastic Rila Monastery.

And while there, the chi-chi dignitaries were billeted at the swanky Grand Hotel Sofia, dahlings.

THE DRIVING force behind Bonifacio High Street's success: Ed Cruz, director, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation; John Tan, director, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation and Evergreen Holdings; Gen. Narciso Abaya, director, FBDC and president and CEO, Bases Conversion and Development Authority; Al Santos, vice chairman, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation, and chairman, Bases Conversion and Development Authority; Butch Campos, chairman, Fort Bonifacio Development Authority, and chairman, Evergreen Holdings, Inc; Honorable Freddie Tinga, Mayor of Taguig City; Fernando Zobel De Ayala, vice chairman, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation and chairman, Ayala Land; and Jim Ayala, president, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation and Ayala Land, Inc.

BULGARIA deputy prime minister and minister of Foreign Affairs Ivailo Kalfin with guests, Monaco Consul Fortune Aleta-Ledesma and Bulgaria's Philippine Consul Rene Locsin-Ledesma

AMBASSADOR Blagovest Sendov of the Republic of Bulgaria

METRO Him editor Carlo Tadiar

SAGA Events' Robbie Carmona and Nikki Banzon

RPA People & Parties' Carlo Sumayao, publicist Philip Abadicio with Dockers' Joan de Guzman, and Grace Ibsernas

SUNSET SCENT FOR MOM

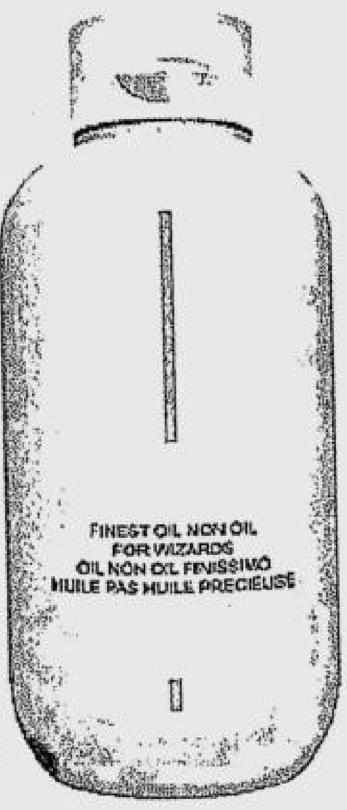
Luxury fashion house Escada encapsulates the passion and excitement of summer with Sunset Heat, a refreshing summery fragrance for today's generation of modern, stylish and fun-loving women. Light, airy and uplifting, Escada's Sunset Heat has exotic fruit aromas with top notes of papaya, lemon, mango sherbet and pineapple mousse; middle notes of icy watermelon, peach, lotus flower and hibiscus; and base notes of sandalwood, musk and amber crystals. Available in all leading department stores nationwide and exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corporation

Goodbye, frizzy hair

DAVINES' WIZARDS #1 FINEST Oil Non Oil smoothens even the frizziest of hair, leaving it soft, smooth and shiny. It tames the hair and provides a smoothening effect on the cuticle layer (the outer layer) of the hair, plus an extra coating that protects as the hair strands rub against each other, minimizing if not totally eliminating hair damage.

The formula contains almond proteins and conditioning agents to give the hair softness, moisture and exceptional sheen. This also gives Wizards #1 all the benefits and consistency that oil has without the undesirable oily effect on the hands. This "oil non oil" provides a gentle conditioning effect that effectively reduces frizziness. You can also use Wizards #1 prior to blow-drying to eliminate hair frizz, leaving only smooth and soft hair.

Wizards #1 and all Davines products are available at leading salons nationwide, at a suggested retail price of P1,334. Call 6870424 or 6871156.



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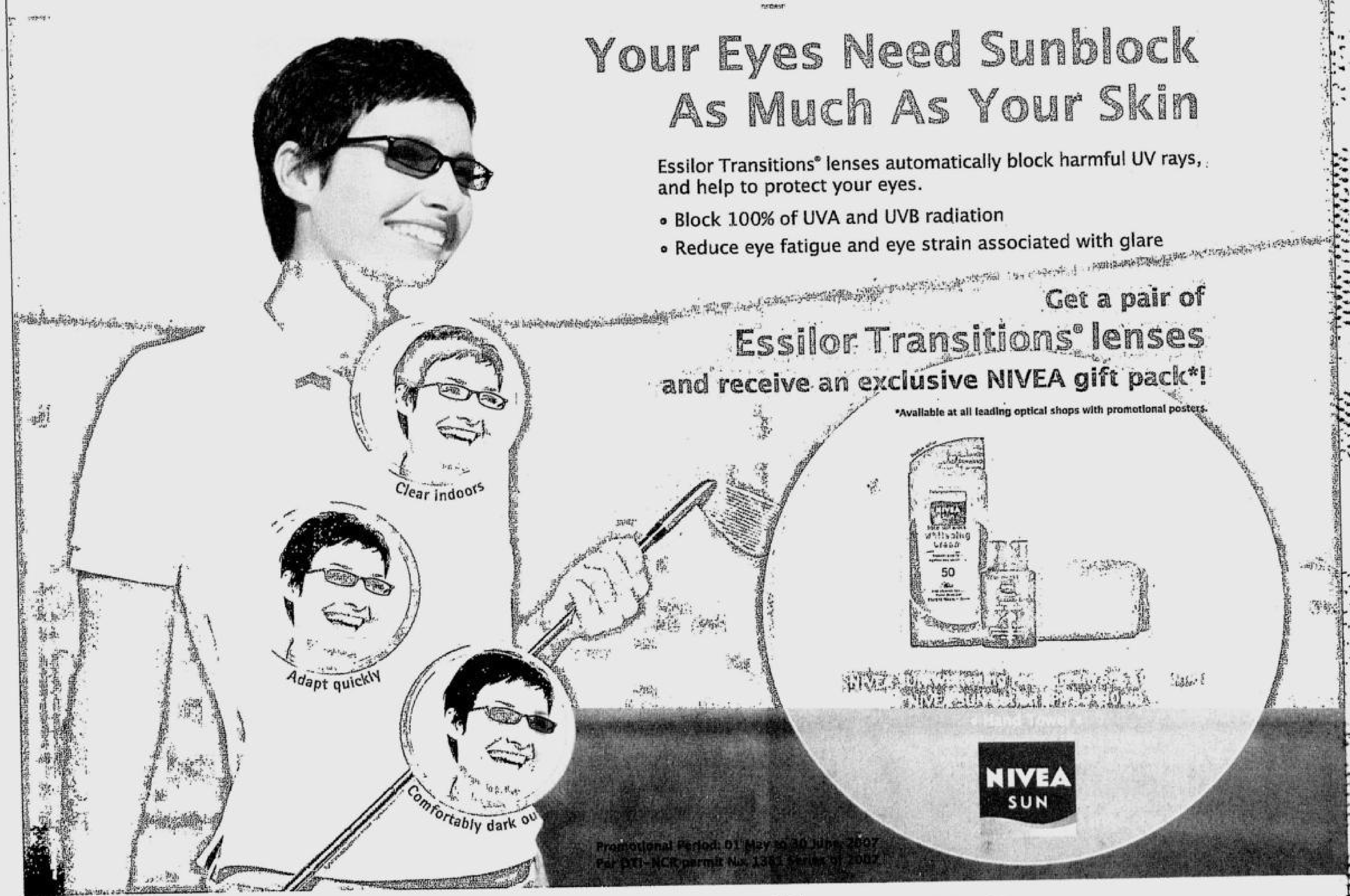

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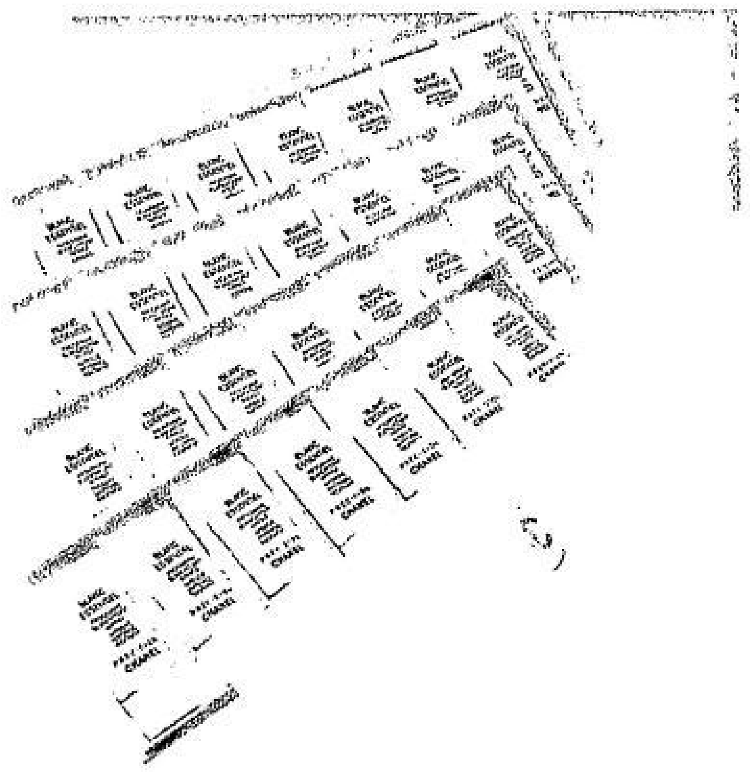
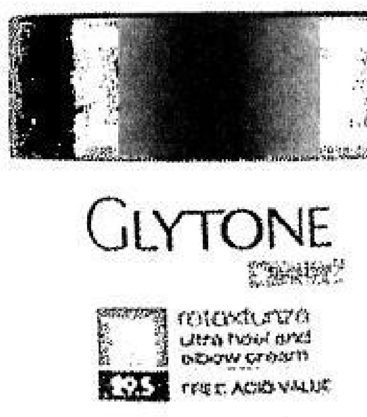


CHANEL Blanc Essential Intensive Whitening Treatment 001



ULTRA Heel and Elbow Cream

What mom wants

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

UPON CLICKING ON THE SEND bar of my e-mail for last Friday's article, it dawned on me that it was already May and that Mother's Day would be coming soon. Looking at the heaps of products I had road-tested, I was still unable to decide which could be best for moms, so I just called a bunch of moms and asked them what they wanted.

Their answers surprised me because it turned out that when it came to their beauty requests, most did not want a pricey fancy item. What they really wanted was to stock up on essentials they know work and they could use on a daily basis and don't cost much; that way they could also boost their savings.

Here are the most requested items in order of tally:

1. Face Sun Block SPF 50 and above—Moms have used this as their day cream because they see the difference in skin texture, firmness and evenness of skin tone. The ones that are high SPF, non-acnegenic and comfortable are way more expensive than the ones used for the body. Favorites: VMV Armada SPF 60, Guerlain SPF 50, Shiseido SPF 50, Estee Lauder Cyberwhite or Nutritious UV Protector SPF 50.

2. Whiter elbows and knees—Glytone Ultra Heel and Elbow Cream (P2,730). Filipinas, most Asians and even the fairest-skinned ones are prone to brown skin discoloration. Glytone has been the fastest and most effective way to lighten elbows, knees, dark calluses on heels and toes. Just leave on for not more than 10 minutes a day, and pretty soon the area will be even. Of course, it comes back when you wear tight shoes and rest on your elbows a lot, hence the demand for the product.

3. Pigmentation eraser/skin recovery—In a skin-brightening set, the first to run out are the toners and serums/essences because you use them twice a day and are not as thick as the cleansers.

Favorites among toners/astringents, lotions: Godiva, Fasio and Shu Uemura.

Essences/serums/treatments—Those labeled "intense" are used every three months to make skin glow or to repair major sun damage or pigmentation. Examples are Guerlain Perfect White C 14 day concentrated whitening and Chanel Blanc Essential 28 day Intensive Whitening Treatment.

Maintenance serums—These are used daily to maintain and improve skin in fairly great condition: Neutrogena Fine Fairness, P680; Godiva Vitamin C serum, P250; Avon Anew Alternative Intensive Whitening Treatment, P1,200, includes firming, pore refining and exfoliating in its repertoire; and Clinique dermawhite essence.

4. Eyelash extensions or perm—These last between one to three months. Eyes look wide awake and brighter. Less makeup product and time are usually needed. Those with short and/or thin eyelashes want extensions while those with already long and thick but straight, droopy lashes can just go for the cheaper and less-hassle perm.

Best places for eyelash extensions and perms: Mikaela, Razzle Dazzle (8402880) and Philosophy salon (8921574).

5. Anti hair-loss treatment—This has worked for me in the past when stress and bad diet caused my already thin hair to fall out prematurely.

Kerastase Bain Prevention Shampoo (P1,075) and 10 Anti Hair-loss Aminexil ampoules (P3,790), where one ampoule can be good for three days or more. These can be obtained exclusively at beauty salons.

(Male baldness is a different matter, so consult a doctor for that.)

6. Covering the gray—Roots of dyed hair show up after two to three weeks. Those with predominantly white hair go through their stock pretty quick so they really cannot have enough in storage. Find out your mom's shade and brand and get her several bottles of the dye-color. Hair dyes cost P300-P500 so you can get her several. Available at drugstores and department stores.

7. Massages and foot reflexology—Philosophy salon has top-of-the-line comfortable equipment with very reasonable prices. Call 8185401.

For any questions related to this article, e-mail the author at kinnysalas@yahoo.com

Beauty made easy

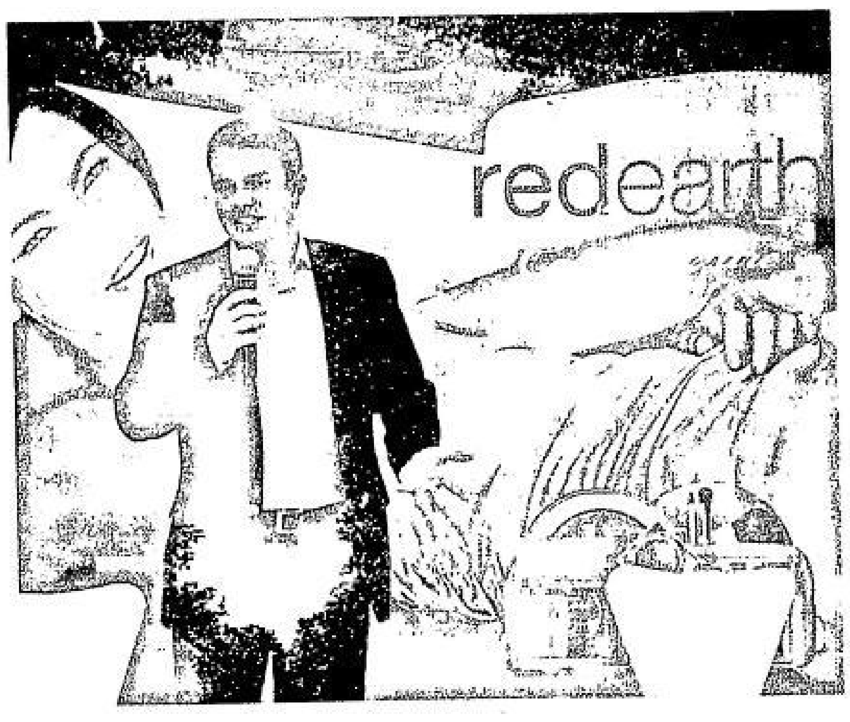
From page D1

see huge progress in the Chinese market, for example. And we have a very strong business in Thailand and also Dubai, which shows us that the colors and textures are appreciated by the consumers."

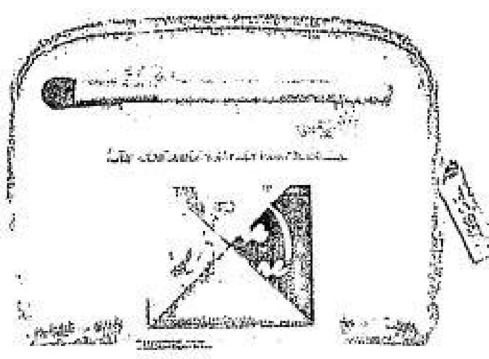
In fact, top Japanese makeup artist Chiaki Shimada recently named several Red Earth products as his favorites. The artist comes out with a seasonal catalogue featuring what to his opinion are the best of the best beauty products. For his Spring/Summer 2007 catalogue, Shimada featured seven Red Earth products including the Absolute Brows Brow Perfecting Kit in Blonde, Sheer Envy Lipstick in Bellini and Eye 'n Glow in Brocade.

Red Earth, which Borchert describes as high-quality, fashionable and stylish, has a lot to offer the color-oriented local consumer. This, among other things, probably explains why he is confident about the brand's success in Manila.

E-mail the author at afashion@inquirer.com.ph



RED Earth president Stephan Borchert shares his thoughts on the business of beauty.



COTE d'Azure eye shadow compact features the vibrant colors of the sea.

Chiaki Shimada SS 07 Catalog

Neutral &Airy
Eye 'n Glow – Brocade
Blush 'n Glow
Sheer Envy Lipstick - Bellini
Eye Definer – BR010
redearth

JAPANESE makeup maven Chiaki Shimada includes seven Red Earth products in his Spring/Summer '07 catalogue.

LIFESTYLE
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Contributing Editors Jenni Epperson and Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

FASHION

Short tales

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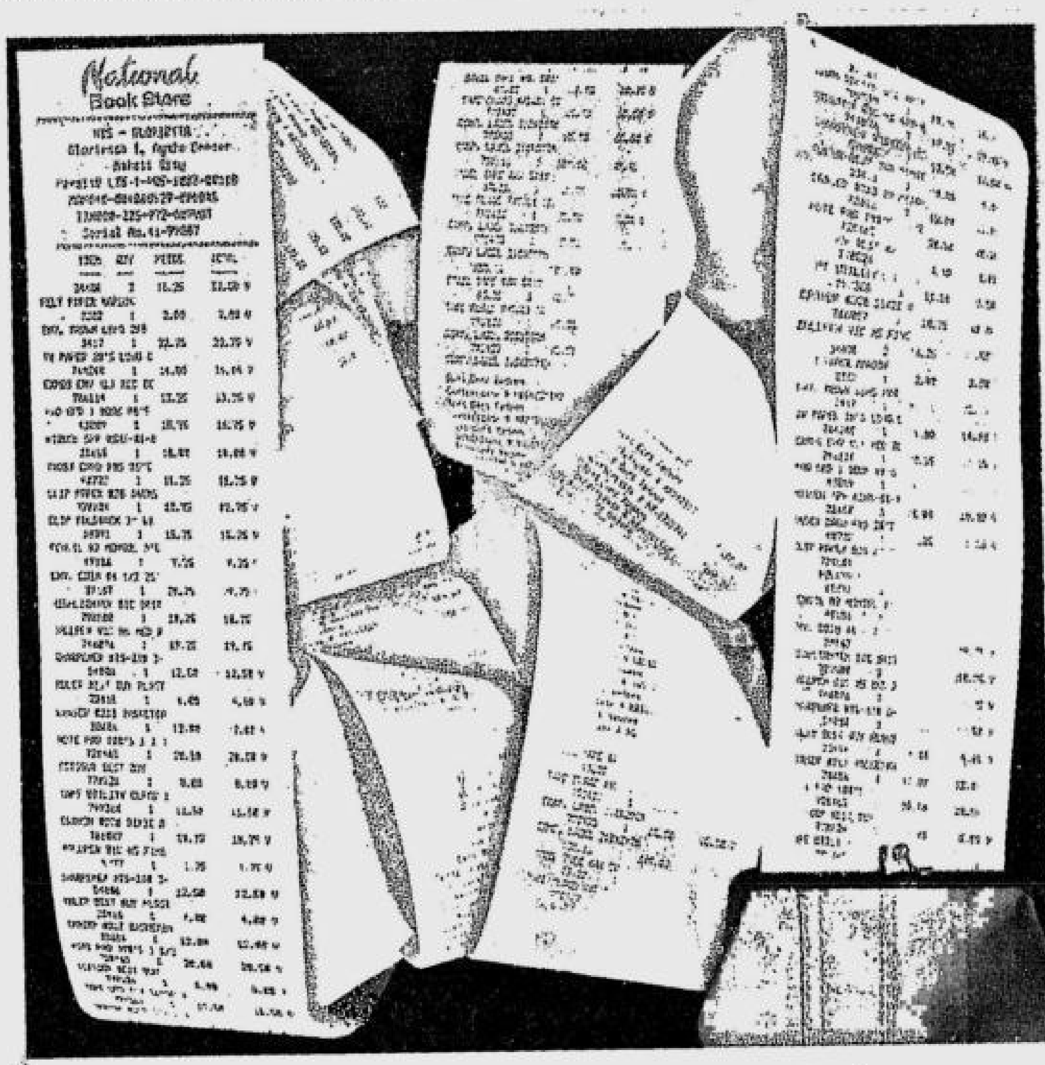

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Great bargains for the greatest moms in the world!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-158, Series of 2007

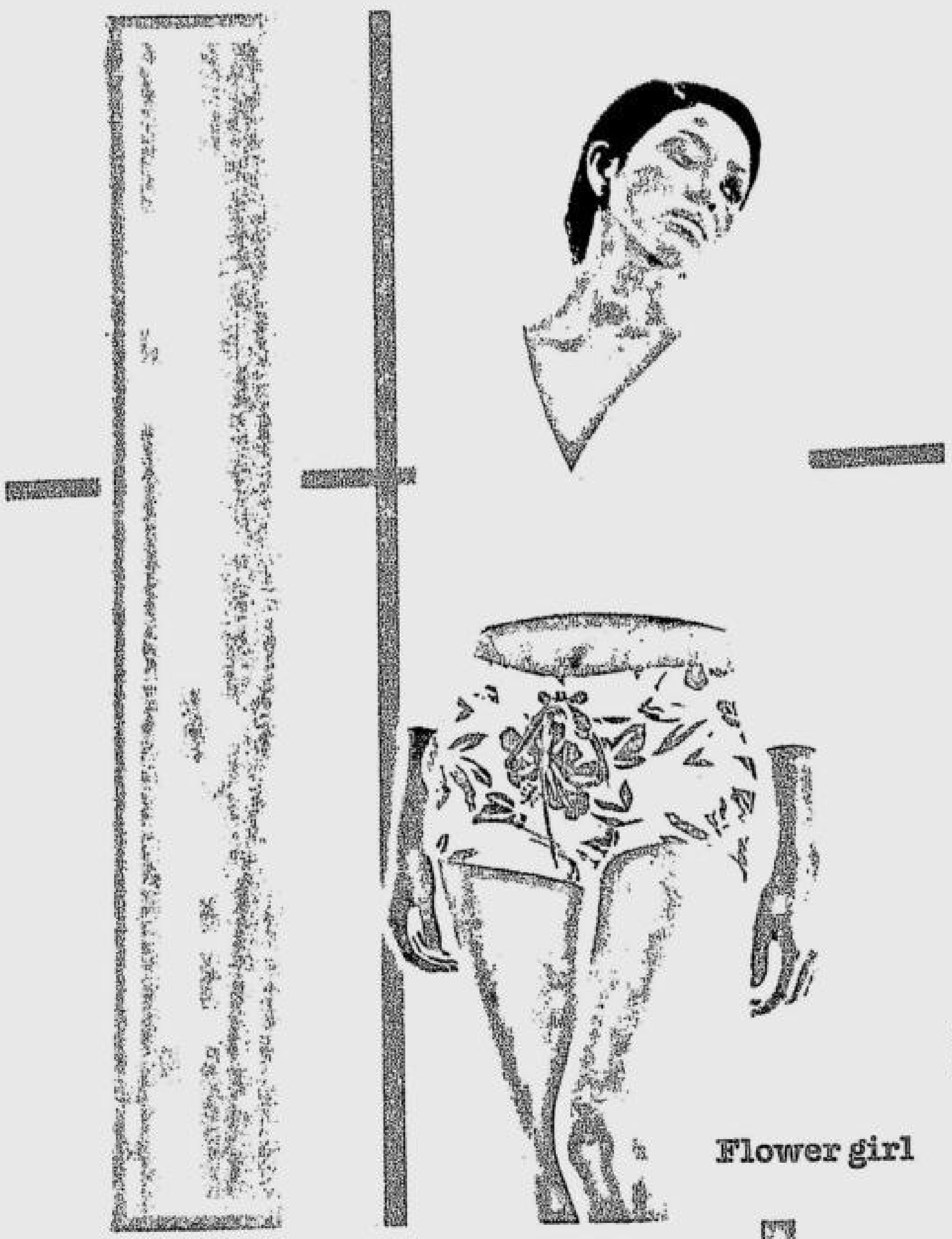
Ayala Malls

ENJOY THE FOLLOWING EVENTS & PROMOS:

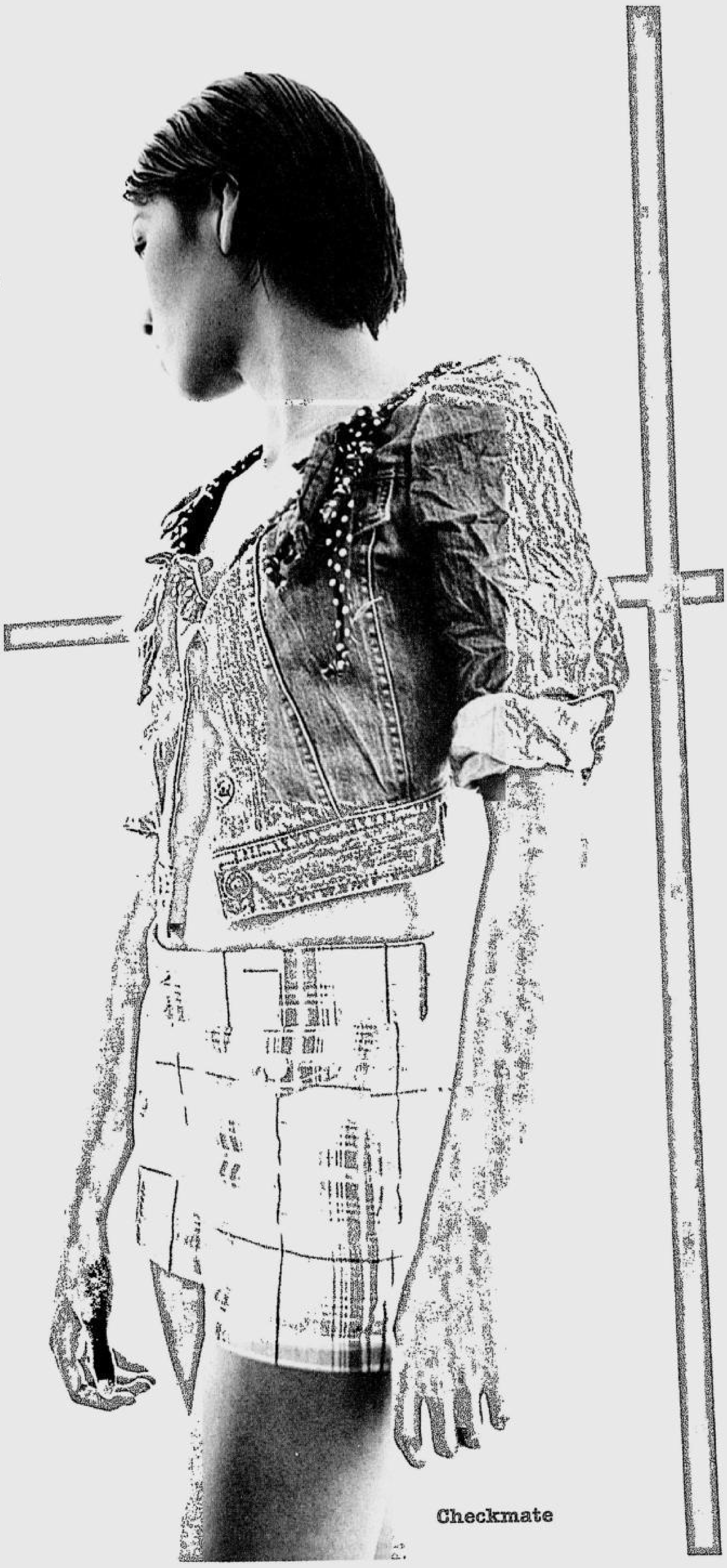
Strawberry Shortcake and Friends
The Big Berry Bake Off at the Ayala Malls
May 11, 12 and 13, Activity Center
11am, 3pm and 6pm

Treat Your Mom on Mother's Day!
For a minimum purchase of P500 worth of Ayala Malls EGCs from May 1 to 13, shoppers get a chance to pick a prize for their Moms.
*see leaflets for details Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-152, Series of 2007

MARKET!
MARKET! Bonifacio Global City
The fun is in the finds



Flower girl



Checkmate

Board mates

HerBench boardies can compete in the surf capitals of the world

Mabuhay!

Jenni Epperson

IF THOSE ITSY BITSY BIKINI ensembles take the place of basic fitted tees in the season of the eternal summer, then what would take the place of blue jeans?

Bring out the boardies!

In fact, board shorts are pretty much the uniform in the sunshine-filled surf capitals of Sydney and the Gold Coast. Whether you're walking down the shoreline or partying up a storm in dance clubs, the young, vibrant and ultra laid-back Aussies just love their boardies. It's the best thing to don for nature-tripping, hiking, island-hopping, banana boat riding or just about any activity under the sun (flirting with a spiked fruit shake included!)

Back in our shores, Pinays can channel their own total beach bum vibe without looking like a slacker surfer in too-loose boardies cut for the guys. HerBench has a colorful array of board shorts that highlight their precious boo-tay.

The line features cool colors inspired by Caribbean and tropical flowers, and cut shorter for a sexier silhouette.

HerBench also has washed and distressed khaki shorts made of lightweight cotton fleece to provide the ultimate comfort for those strenuous but fun summer activities.

So, girls, don't get caught on a fashion flatfoot as you hike up the mountains or soak up the sights in summer's exciting destinations.

From city to beach to the peaks, you'll never get bored or fall short with these bootylicious board shorts.

E-mail the author at jfashion@inquirer.com.ph

Va-va-voom!

Indigo calling

**Photography Tom Epperson of Snapbox
Unit 255 Level 2 Makati Shangri-La Hotel
Styling Jenni Epperson
Hair and makeup Jigs Mayuga for L'Oreal Paris
Board shorts are available at HerBench
Tops available at Kashieca and HerBench
Models Mira Baino and Joy Pagurayan
of Philippines' 'Next Top Model'**

A Starlet Is Born
$130. Kaje Bo... 310-247-...

A STARLET IS BORN
Hong Kong-based Wendy Puyat-Hotung's embellished swimsuits are all about jet-set appeal, but she assures us they are definitely swim friendly. "The suits are cut so that you can actually be active in them," she says.

What's New
Bally-hoo
Totes

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THEFASHPACK.BLOGSPOT.COM

A starlet is born

THE SPOTLIGHT IS NOW ON GORGEOUS designer Wendy Puyat-Hotung as her swimsuit line made it to the pages of Bazaar's May 2007 issue.

Wendy launched her swimsuit line in Manila in 2005, but when she and husband, Tony Hotung, moved to Hong Kong, she expanded her business to overseas markets.

Her swimsuits are now available at Lane Crawford in Hong Kong, Kaje Rodeo Drive Beverly Hills and Harvey Nichols, Dubai.

FVSHION BUZZ
Hot, haute, hot news!

R.I.P. Isabella Blow

Fashion Blow

THE GLOBAL FASHION SCENE mourns the death of Tatler magazine's contributing editor Isabella Blow, the beautiful free spirit known for her bright lipsticks and distinctive hats. She died of ovarian cancer at 49 in the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

Isabella studied at Heathfield School in the United Kingdom, and moved to New York in 1979 where she studied ancient Chinese art at Columbia University. She became friends with the likes of Anna Wintour and Andy Warhol, and emerged as a powerhouse in the fashion magazine industry in the 1980s. She returned to London and worked for Tatler and the Sunday Times Magazine.

She was the muse of mad hatter Philip Treacy, a young talent she had met while she was the style editor of Tatler. As collaborators and good friends, their careers soared. Isabella Blow is credited with discovering designers Alexander McQueen, Julien MacDonald and Hussein Chalayan, and catwalk queens Sophie Dahl and Stella Tenant.

GISELLE Bündchen's YSL Fall/Winter 2007 campaign, shot by Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin

The secret is out

THE MALE POPULATION mourned when Brazilian uber-model Giselle Bündchen hung up her wings for good as Victoria's Secret most famous archangel. In the span of nine years, she put Victoria's Secret on everyone's lips with her divine presence on the catwalk and in catalogues.

It was reported that she left because the powerhouse lingerie company would not increase her US$5 million annual salary. Brazilian website Glamurana reports, "Her demands were outrageous." Gossip sites and news reports in the Brazilian media revealed that among Giselle's long list of requests in contract talks was that she should never be on the same runway as ex-boyfriend Leo DiCaprio's current girlfriend. There were also rumors that Victoria's Secret was not happy that Giselle packed on 15 lbs after giving up cigarettes.

But all that gossip aside, Giselle is far from quitting the limelight! Huge collective sigh there that we're far from seeing the last of her, as she's now officially teleported to the domain of Yves Saint Laurent.

Giselle has been cast by Stefano Pilati to star in his Fall/Winter 2007 campaign shot by Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin.

What can we say? You just can't easily extinguish a star.

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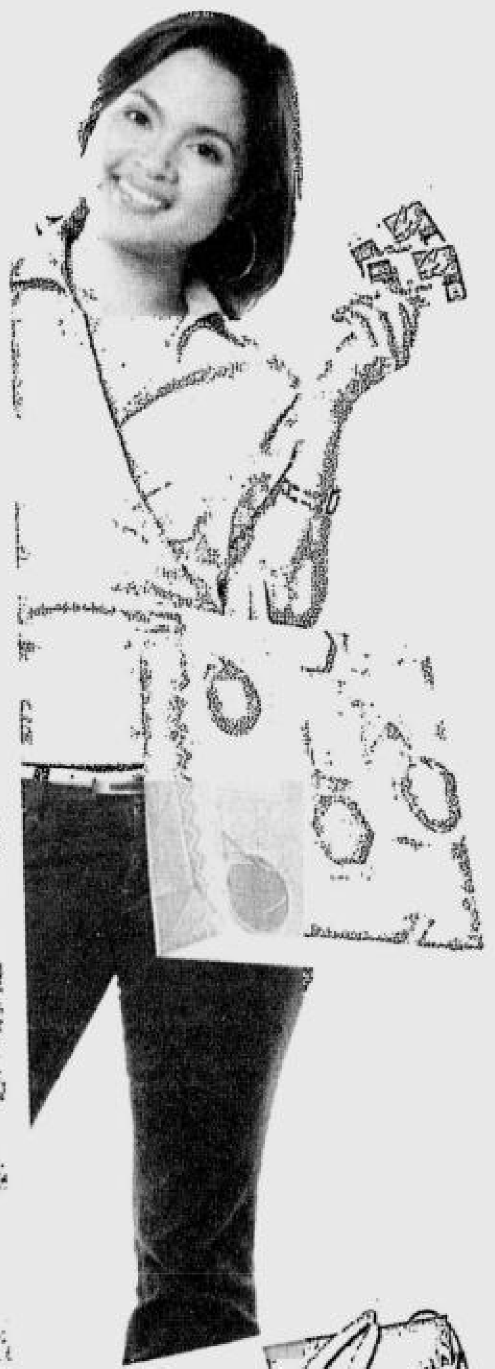

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May 13
Celebrate Mother's Day at SM
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Eat out with Mom
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SM CITY SAN LAZARO • SM MEGAMALL • SM CITY STA. MESA
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SM SUPERMALLS

Caricature for Moms in all SM Metro Manila malls

SM City North Edsa, SM City Fairview SM Supercenter Valenzuela, SM City Sta. Mesa SM City San Lazaro, SM City Manila, SM Megamall SM City Bicutan, SM City Sucat, SM City Bacoor SM Southmall, SM Supercenter Pasig	May 13

The "Thank You, Mom" Wall in all SM Metro Manila malls

May 11-13

Fabulous Moms on the Runway

Watch moms take on the catwalk as they model the latest fashion designs.

SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Pampanga	May 11
SM City Lucena, SM City Bacolod	May 12
SM City Batangas, SM City Lipa, SM City Marilao SM City Clark, SM Supercenter Molino, SM City Cebu	May 13

Cake and Cookie House Decorating Contest

Join the fun of making delicious treats!

SM Supercenter Molino, SM City Lucena	May 11
SM City Batangas, SM City Lipa, SM City Sta. Rosa	May 12
SM City Baguio, SM City Clark, SM City Dasmariñas SM City Marilao, SM City Pampanga	May 13

Mommy Make Over

SM City Sta. Mesa	May 11
SM City Manila Manila Mom Make Over	May 11-13
SM Supercenter Valenzuela	May 13
SM City Cebu	May 13

Mother's Day Singing Contests

Mom takes center stage in this talent contest.

SM City Lipa	May 11
SM City Dasmariñas	May 13
SM City Sta. Mesa Bida si Mommy, Diva si Mommy	May 13

Mother's Day Concerts and Musical Serenade

Serenade mom with beautiful music.

SM Megamall	May 11
SM City Bicutan, SM City San Lazaro SM City Sta Mesa, SM City Fairview	May 12
The Block, SM Southmall, SM City Manila SM Supercenter Pasig, SM City Bacoor SM City Fairview, SM City North Edsa	May 13
SM City Clark Faith Cuneta	May 11
SM Megamall Mother's Day Woodwind Orchestra Concert	May 11
SM City Manila Phil. Navy Band Concert	May 11
SM City Bicutan Retrospect	May 11
SM City Cagayan de Oro Mandaue Children's Choir	May 11
SM City Sta. Mesa Acoustic Serenade for Moms	May 12
SM City North Edsa Mark Bautista	May 12
SM City Sucat PMC Quartet and Philippine Navy Seabees Combo	May 12
SM City Cebu Ronnie Liang	May 12
SM City Sta. Mesa Mother's Day Woodwind Orchestra Concert	May 12
SM Supercenter Valenzuela Mother's Day Musical	May 12 & 13
SM Southmall Mother's Day Specials	May 12 & 13
SM City Baguio Cool Nights, Warm Blends : Music Ambience	May 12 & 19
SM Supercenter Pasig Songs for Moms	May 12, 19 & 26
SM City North Edsa UST Music Ensemble The Quezon City Symphonic Band	May 13
SM City Manila Mother's Day Woodwind Orchestra Concert	May 13
SM City Pampanga Christian Bautista	May 13
SM City Iloilo The Company	May 13
SM City Sucat Jade Strings	May 13
SM City Bacolod The West Negros Choral and Kulay Picata	May 13
SM City Clark Gary Valenciano	May 19
SM City Baguio Rachelle Ann Go with Jimmy Marquez	May 19
SM City Clark Typecast Band	May 19
SM City Clark Pinoy Dream Academy's Chad Peralta	May 21
SM City Baguio Typecast Band	May 26

Mother's Day Specials

SM City Manila Preggy Mommy Day	May 11
SM City Batangas Fashion and Personality Development Seminar by Pati Betita	May 11
SM City Sucat Make Your Mama Proud : McDonald's Kiddie Crew Graduation Day	May 11
SM City Bicutan "Artsy for Kids and Moms" : Workshops & Cake Decorating Activities	May 11 & 12
SM City Pampanga Photos Du Monde "Portraits of Mom"	May 11-13
SM Supercenter Pasig I Love My Mom Drawing Contest	May 11-13
SM City Iloilo Iloilo Photographic Society Mother's Day "The Ilonggo Mother" : Photo Exhibit	May 11-13
SM City Lucena "Alay kay Inay" : Painting Exhibit	May 11-13
SM City Manila Rose and Photo for a Mother	May 11-13
SM City Bacolod Pampering Booths for Moms	May 11-13
SM City Davao Mother and Daughter Look-alike Photo Contest Judging and Announcement of Winners	May 11 & 14
SM Supercenter Valenzuela Treats for Moms	May 11-15
SM City Sucat Tips & Treats for Moms	May 11-31
SM City Manila "Ilaw" : On-the-Spot Painting Contest	May 12
SM City San Lazaro INA-NIME : A Mother's concealed prowess, unleashed.	May 12
SM City Iloilo Mother and Daughter Look-alike Fashion Show and Grand Finals	May 12
SM City Baguio Lactum 100% Nutrition Caravan	May 12 & 13
SM Megamall Mega Moms Mega Loved	May 12 & 13
SM Southmall Mother's Day Special	May 12 & 13
SM Megamall Mother's Day Off	May 13
SM City Lucena The Cocina Argentina Passion for Flavor Mall Tour Mother's Day Living Gallery Greetings On-Air	May 13
SM City North Edsa Celebrate Mother's Day only at SM City North Edsa	May 13
SM City Bacolod Mom and Daughter Look-alike Contest Final Judging	May 13
SM City Cagayan de Oro Mother and Daughter Look-alike Contest Grand Finals	May 13
SM City Cebu Mom and Daughter Look-alike Contest Presentation and Judging	May 13
SM City Sta. Rosa Pampering Moms	May 14-17
SM City Sta. Rosa Lactum Nutrition Mission Caravan	May 19 & 20
SM Supercenter Pasig Mom and Me in a Bubble Photo Opportunity	May 20 & 27
SM City Baguio Zonta Poster Making Contest "Stop Violence Against Women"	May 22
SM City Baguio Mrs. Baguio 2007 Talent Competition	May 24

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NOTED fashion photographer Nigel Barker will be at the Alabang Town Center Activity Center today at 6 p.m.

PA BARKER

NOTED FASHION PHOTOGrapher and "America's Next Top Model's" resident hottie Nigel Barker is in town to share decades' worth of fashion experience and expertise with stylish Filipinos who are more than eager to hear what he has to say. This former model turned photographer breaks stereotypes of "Zoolander" models, or male models who have nothing between their heads.

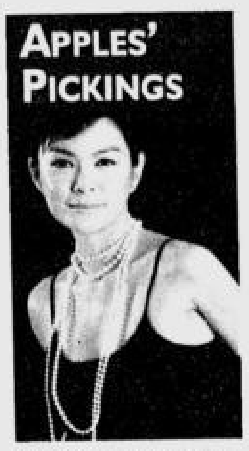
Fact is, he has quite a lot to share, starting with the maxim that it takes more than long legs and good skin to break into an ultra-competitive, potentially cutthroat industry.

"It's like any job. If you want to be good at it, practice it. Learn the trade. Learn who the photographers are, look at magazines, practice your walk. Be smart about it," says Barker.

He also believes that street smarts, not just "book-smarts," is a must for potentially successful models. He says: "As a model, you really are dealing with people, on the streets, going to castings, being told things, being flirted

PA BARKER/ F4

APPLES' PICKINGS



Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

The hunkie fashion photographer-judge of 'America's Top Model' is a model to wannabe-models

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Marvelous Moms' day
May 13, 2007

It's time to thank the [illegible] Mom! Festival Supermall [illegible] your mom to a special day that she won't forget.

I Love You Bear-y Much!
Mothers get mini teddy bears as a special gift this Mother's Day.

Pop-Up Cards for Mom
Learn to make a unique pop-up card for Mom in a free workshop at the Pixie Forest. [illegible]
Just register at the Pixie Forest office before the event.

A Serenade for Mama
Treat Mom to a hearty meal at the [illegible] Chef's Avenue between 7-9pm and enjoy a soothing serenade from talented [illegible] singer Noelle Cassandra.

FILINVEST
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Happy Mother's Day!

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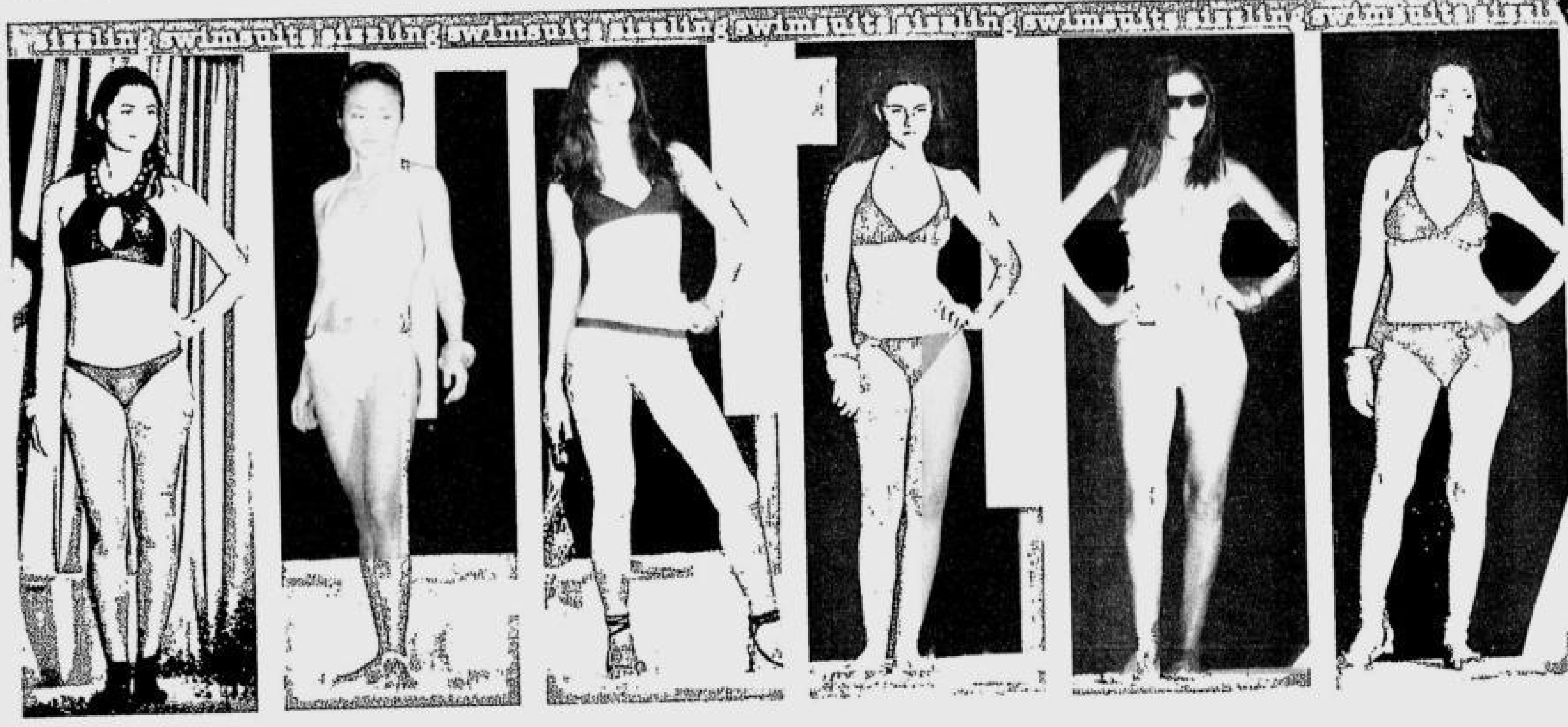
sizzling swimsuits sizzling swimsuits sizzling swimsuits sizzling swimsuits sizzling swimsuits sizzl

Bikinis and beyond

BORACAY BOUND 6 IS summer's ultimate party. For six years now, Boracay Bound's creator, Eventscape's Stephen Ku, constantly redefines the summer beach experience with this one-of-a-kind event.

This year's affair had beach partyphiles in hot pursuit of the latest Motorola handset, the Motorazr V6 Maxx. Blending cutting-edge design and the power of high-speed connectivity, this phone offers a revolutionary High-Speed Downlink Packet Access (HSDPA) and Enhanced Data for Global Evolution (EDGE), which perfectly complements the new innovation from Globe, the Globe 3G with HSDPA.

The Moto-Globe Challenge station was the first hurdle for the participants, where they had to take a wild, crazy photo using the new Motorola V6 Maxx and upload it to the Boracay Bound 6 Multiply site. Next stop was the Moto-Globe Connect Station where showcases of Motorola handsets under Globe plans were presented.

Another activity had participants visiting a website and answering questions to be able to continue to the next round, where they could claim prizes in the Prize Claim Station such as shirts, pens, Globe premium items and beach kits.

Folded & Hung provided the sizzle with a catwalk show offering its most alluring swimwear collection to date. The bikinis, maillots, board shorts and cover-ups came in earth-toned suits adorned with big bangles and big straw hats.

Boracay Bound 6 was presented by Globe and Motorola, co-presented by Haagen Dazs, Schick, Seair, the official airlines of Boracay Bound 6; and The Tides, the official residences of Boracay Bound 6; also with Innove, Zero, Folded & Hung, Boracay Beach Club, Embassy, GSMI Blue, Havaianas, Beach Hut, Aria, Mongkok, Cyma and Hawaiian Barbeque.

beach cover-ups beach cover-ups beach cover-ups beach cover-ups beach cover-ups beach cover-ups beach
beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boys beach boy

party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps party peeps

SUPER'S Tals Diaz and Christine San Diego

THEY'RE bringing sexy back!

FASHION calling Motorazr V6 Maxx

STEPHEN Ku, Globe's Cynthia Mangahas and Coco Domingo

KAT Cruz, Michelle Pamintuan and Chicho Suarez

CARLA Sibal with Motorola's Mari Litonjua

What would you most want to receive on Mother's day?

"I just want my son Emilio, my family and my significant other to be present on this day. As long as we're complete, my Mother's day is made."

–Patty Betita, model/image enhancement speaker

"I want a vacation but that's out of the question for the moment. I'll settle for an uninterrupted afternoon in bed with my boys (with hubby, of course) watching Voltes V while eating junk food."

–Pauline Suaco-San Juan, editor-in-chief of Preview magazine

"I wish for the best of health for my baby, Lucas, as he grows into a little boy. But of course, his dad can also treat me to a full day at the spa and salon."

–Amina Aranaz-Alunan, designer, Aranaz

"Beach stuff for my weekend wardrobe. Matching bikinis for Carmen and I from Swim (in Rockwell), clear acrylic accessories from Ice and Vuarnet aviators."

–Romina Urra-Gonzalez, editor-in-chief of Metro Weddings

"Jetting off to Europe to escape this sweltering heat sounds really appealing!"

–Carla Sibal, editor-in-chief of Mega magazine

"A classic Gucci hobo for me, with matching shoes for my daughter."

–Mika Lagdameo, model

"I would love to receive a trip to the new W in the Maldives."

–Patrice Ramos-Diaz, designer

"There is really nothing material that I want. All I want is just to spend one full active day with my daughter Sam. I can't remember the last time we had one full day together, just her and me."

–Lulu Tan Gan, designer

"I've been blessed with two wonderful sons who love and respect me—the two most important things a mother could wish for. I don't think I can ask for anything more."

–Ruby Gan, COO, ShopManila, Inc

photo courtesy of Working Mom Magazine

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for the world's best moms

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- Hobby talk by scrapbooking expert
- Cooking demo for quick, delicious snacks and baon
- Bone check
- Body fat measurement index
- Styling consultation
- Mom and kid mini-fashion show
- Games and raffle
- Mom and child photo op on cover enlargement of Working Mom Magazine
- Entertainment area for kids while their moms get their pampering
- Loot bags for moms
- Retrospect concert at 5pm

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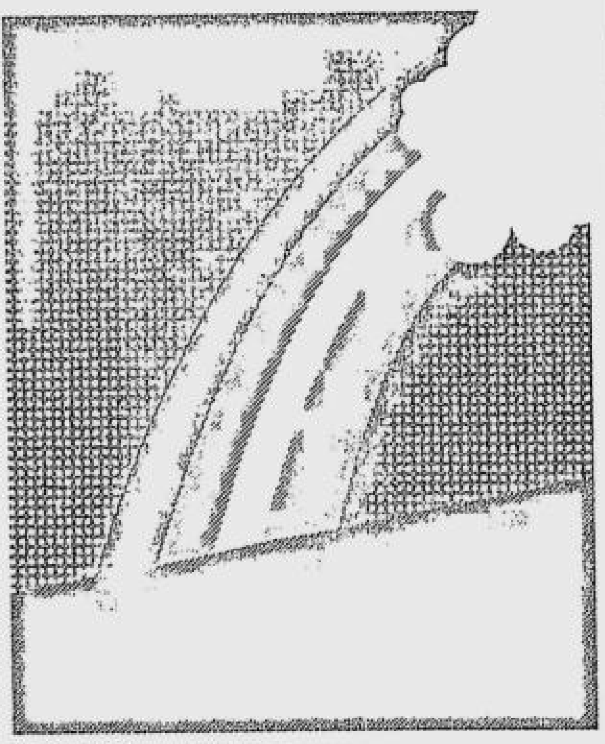
HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLE
Information for Living Right



Question

Do the chemicals dioxin and benzene form in carbonated soft drinks after they are manufactured? I've read that they do and can cause cancer and other diseases.

Answer

Benzene & Dioxins

Benzene Under some unusual conditions, vitamin C (ascorbic acid) could react with widely used preservatives, potassium or sodium benzoate, to form trace amounts of benzene over time.

In 2005-2006, the U.S. Food and Drug administration (FDA), Food Standards Australia New Zealand, Health Canada, Finland's National Food Agency, South Korea's Food and Drug Administration, and the U.K. Food Standards Agency analyzed beverages in the marketplace for benzene, including products from The Coca-Cola Company. A few companies were notified because higher-than expected benzene levels were found in a small number of products from other companies. Importantly, there was no concern expressed about our Company's products.

In truth, benzene is common in our environment and occurs naturally in many foods, but most human exposure comes from breathing air. The FDA specifically indicated that the levels of benzene found in other companies' products do not pose a health risk. Regulatory agencies worldwide are working with industry, trade associations and other groups to further understand the issue and to determine what, if any, additional actions are needed. Working this way means that science and facts-not just rumors or theories-will be completely reviewed.

Dioxins

Dioxins are colorless, odorless organic compounds. Humans will always be exposed to some low level of dioxins because these compounds occur throughout our environment as a result of the burning of organic materials, such as wood from forest fires. However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that backyard trash burning is the single largest source of dioxins in the environment. It is estimated that 95 percent of human exposure to dioxins comes from the diet through food, meat, milk and poultry and through human breast milk. We have not seen any health effects in humans from this low-level exposure, and there are no specific problems with carbonated soft drinks.

TATAK PGH PLUS

DYING TO BE THIN

Andrea Orel Valle, MD (Pediatric News Network)

Thin is in.

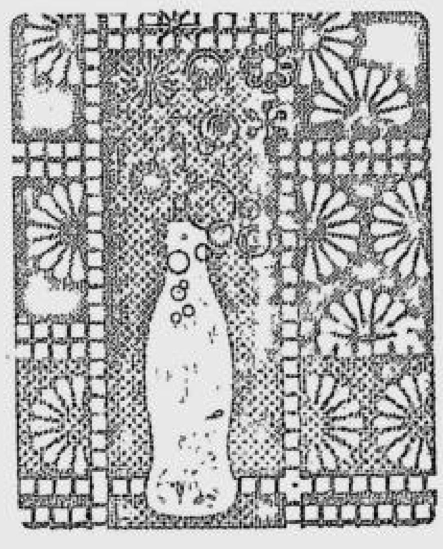
This is the message that is being widely touted by showbiz and the fashion world. To achieve a waif-like body, many teenagers have become afflicted with eating disorders.

In the past months, several models have died because of malnutrition due to eating disorders, making this a very serious problem. During the 40th Post Graduate Course of the Department of Pediatrics held last March 1-2, 2007 at the Century Park Hotel, Dr. Emma Llanto, a specialist of Adolescent Medicine, said that eating disorders used to be a problem found only in industrialized nations, but now affects all ethnic groups.

Those who are affected feel fat, and are unsatisfied with their body weight and shape. In a nutshell, they are very afraid of getting fat. Because of this, they may severely restrict their diet, or have purging episodes, where they may induce vomiting or take in laxatives.

Eating disorders are difficult to treat primarily because the adolescent denies that they have a problem. Hence, it requires a multi-disciplinary approach for treatment. But, if parents recognize these problems early and refer to a specialist, the possibly disastrous complications may be averted.

PGH CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY,
98 DAYS TO GO BEFORE THE PGH CENTENNIAL



Question

I've heard that diet soft drinks can actually make you gain more weight because low-calorie drinks stimulate your appetite; is this true?

Answer

No. Reliable studies show that a person's hunger reaction after drinking low-calorie soft drinks is no different from when he or she drinks water. Neither carbonated soft drinks nor any other single food or beverage is responsible for the problems of overweight and obesity facing society today. Excess weight is gained when you take in more calories than your body burns, no matter where those calories come from. Too many calories or too little physical activity will produce weight gain. Studies have shown that food and beverages using low-calorie sweeteners can help you manage your weight, and that people who use reduced-calorie products in their diets have an overall healthier diet.

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PA BARKER

SOME of Barker's works as featured in www.studionb.com

From page F1

with by guys, getting into clubs, all these things. So, you've got to become really smart really quickly. That's why top models end up being good business people."

As such, he makes special mention of extraordinary women like Elle McPherson, who now has a lingerie line, multimillionaire TV host Tyra Banks and Cindy Crawford, among others, who've gone on to be extremely successful and extremely powerful in different careers.

But it's not easy to reach the top of this particular food chain. "An overnight success in the fashion industry in America is probably two to three years. It's very rare to be a success. Thousands of girls every season in New York become of age, leave high school and try to be models. Probably less than five percent go on to have a career of more than a year or two," says Barker.

Although the statistics are not very encouraging, model wannabes still come in droves, knocking on agencies' doors or joining "America's Next Top Model," hoping to live their champagne dreams.

Explains Barker: "'America's Next Top Model' plays into the fantasy of 'the dream' and all the incredible things that can happen on the show. But at the same time, we use very real people. So one of the magic things is that we use girls that you may not think straight off the bat are models. What we do is this makeover and we show that there is a diamond in every rock. That by polishing it up, you can see the beauty in anything."

He has worked with the likes of Banks and present-day supermodel Giselle Bundchen but Barker says: "I'm less enamored by, and it certainly does not rock my world, working with supermodels or celebrities."

Attracted to people

What enthrall him are people. "I can find anybody fascinating. And it has nothing to do with the age, the size, the look, the color, the creed, the belief, anything. Quite frankly, if you're going to be my subject, one thing I can ask of you, a very hard thing, is to come and be yourself," says Barker.

Unfortunately, Barker finds that people have a big problem with being themselves. "There's a massive sense of inadequacy with most people. I think the human condition lays on that. That is probably the most unattractive thing in someone. And the most attractive thing is when someone is comfortable with themselves," he says.

New models with raw talent are also some of the things he finds exciting, especially being on a show like "America's Next Top Model." "It's all about discovery. It's often about teaching young girls who don't know how to model, to model. And what that really means is to relax—to not model. The irony of it all is that being successful at something is being natural at it. When someone says 'oh, you're a natural,' that means you're good at it. It has to look effortless. No matter what you do," Barker says.

Unknown to many, Barker entered the modeling world in the '80s via "The Clothes Show," a British TV show that was a precursor to reality programs like "America's Next Top Model" and "Project Runway."

"It's funny that I started my modeling career in one of these contests. And I did full circle. And it also means when I talk to these girls, I can say to them you have a chance because, guess what, I didn't win my show, 10 or 15 years ago (he placed third). But I went on to have a very successful modeling career. It's up to the individual. You can say, 'here's a fantastic start in life,' and then if they just decide to do nothing and wait for all the fame to come to them, it is not gonna happen."

Catch Nigel Barker at the Alabang Town Center Activity Center at 6 p.m. tonight.

E-mail the author at afashion@inquirer.com.ph

THE AUTHOR with the resident hottie of "America's Next Top Model"

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ENTERTAINMENT

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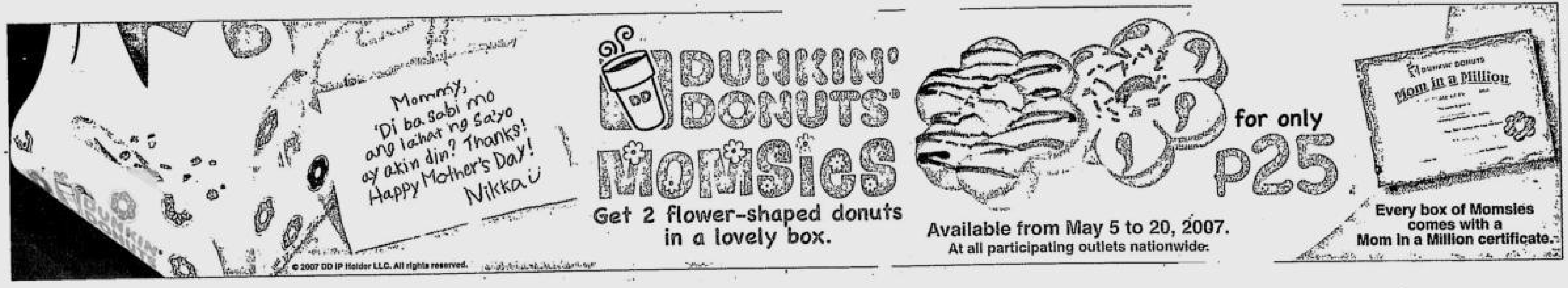
Mommy,
'Di ba sabi mo
ang lahat ng sa'yo
ay akin din? Thanks!
Happy Mother's Day!
Nikka

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MARK ANTHONY FERNANDEZ
AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

Mark comes to pa's rescue

'Bad boy' helps family cope with Daboy's condition

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

IT'S A SURE SIGN OF MATURITY, FORMER "WILD boy" Mark Anthony Fernandez admitted. It's fortunate that, when his father, action star Rudy "Daboy" Fernandez needed him most, he had reached this stable stage in his life, Mark Anthony told INQUIRER Entertainment on the set of his new soap opera for GMA 7, "Impostora."

The elder Fernandez, who fell ill with a rare form of periampullary cancer (near a tube connecting the stomach to the intestine) last year, was scheduled to fly to Japan, for radiofrequency ablation treatment at the Tokyo University Hospital.

Mark Anthony recalled: "I noticed that the processing of the visas (for Japan) was taking too long. So I called up Sen. Jinggoy Estrada to intervene for my dad. Sen. Jinggoy assured me that the Japanese embassy was just waiting for a few requirements."

No need just now

In a later text message, Lorna Tolentino, Daboy's wife, said Rudy's chemotherapy sessions were "working" and that he didn't need to go to Japan for the treatment "in the meantime."

According to Lorna, the delay in visa processing had nothing to do with the controversy sparked by Daboy's detention at the Narita Airport with Alma Moreno, Mark Anthony's mom, in 2005.

"Alma had been traveling often to Japan since then," Lorna said. "Anyway, I've been praying that he won't have to get that treatment."

Mark Anthony said that he had been more worried last year, when Rudy's illness was first diagnosed. "I'm more optimistic now," the younger Fernandez said. "I'm confident that he can breeze through his treatments."

Although the cancer had metastasized to Daboy's liver, Mark Anthony remained willfully upbeat. "I'm very positive. I always talk to him and, when we're together, I make it a point to not make him worry or feel sad," he said.

Beyond words

His love for his dad "goes beyond words," he stressed. "Even if we are not together every day, he knows that he can always count on me."

He said his own family life was thriving and that he was "happy" now. Last September, he married partner Melissa Garcia, with whom he has a son, Cameron, now four years old.

For the positive changes, he credits his mom and dad, Melissa, and step mom Lorna. They stood by him through his recovery from substance abuse, he recalled.

"Clean living *na ako*. I'm living the life of an athlete," he said, explaining how he kept to the straight and narrow. "I go to the gym, play basketball regularly. I don't want to go through again what I went through in the past."

He figured he just had to go through that rebellious phase: "I lived the wild life. I'm just so lucky that I survived."

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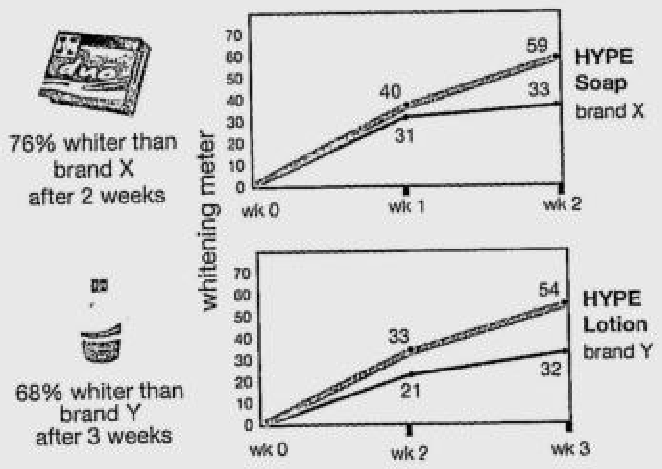

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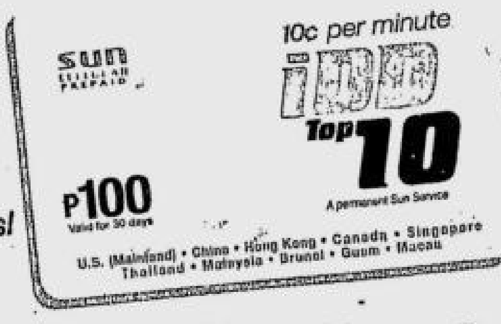
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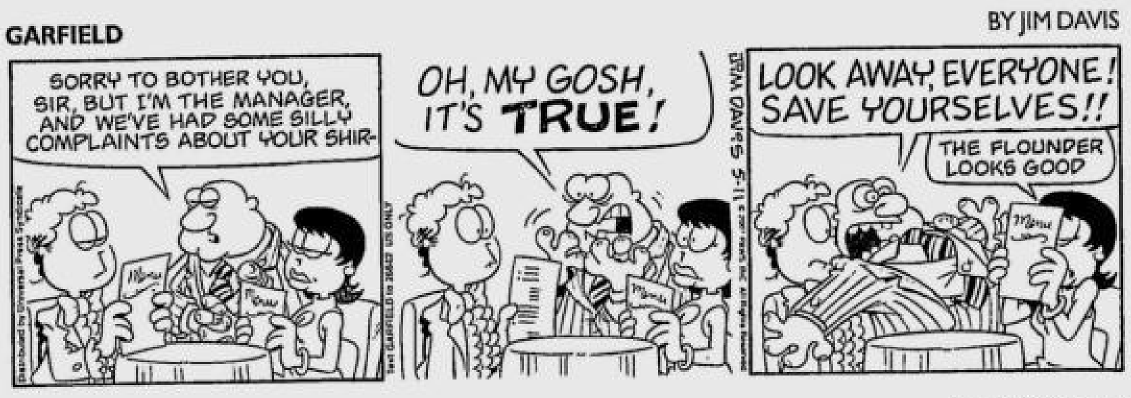
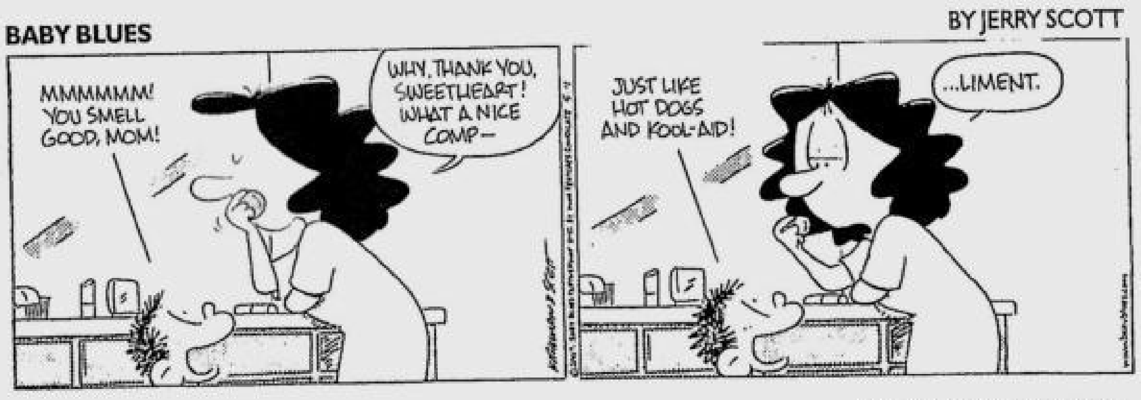
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, SIR, BUT I'M THE MANAGER, AND WE'VE HAD SOME SILLY COMPLAINTS ABOUT YOUR SHIR-
OH, MY GOSH, IT'S TRUE!
LOOK AWAY, EVERYONE! SAVE YOURSELVES!!
THE FLOUNDER LOOKS GOOD
JIM DAVIS 5-11

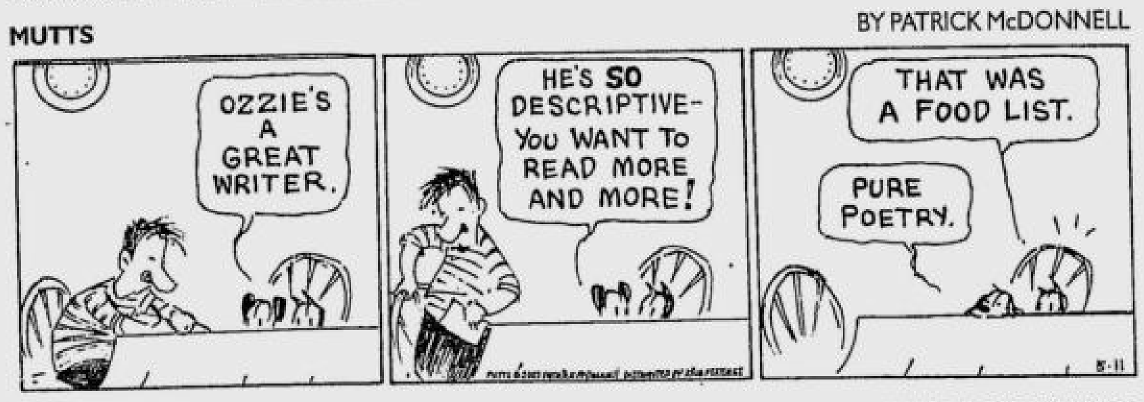
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


MMMMMM! YOU SMELL GOOD, MOM!
WHY, THANK YOU, SWEETHEART! WHAT A NICE COMP—
JUST LIKE HOT DOGS AND KOOL-AID!
...LIMENT.

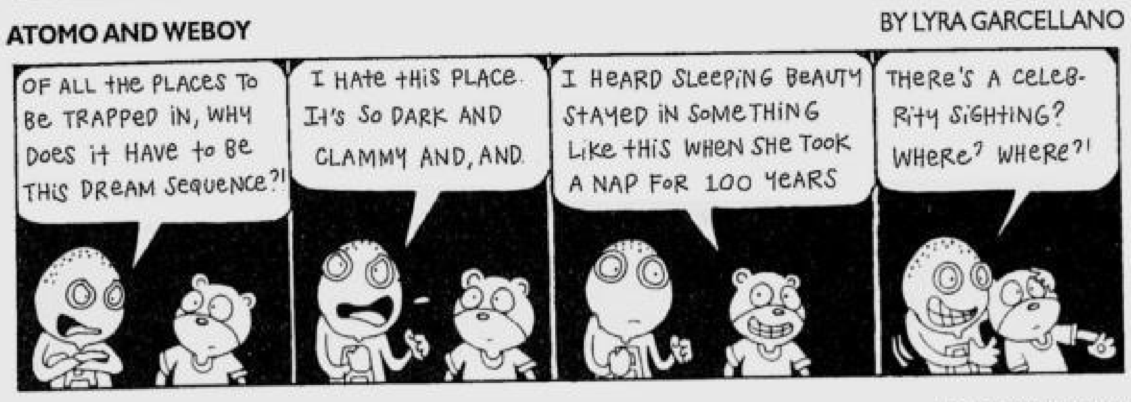
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


OZZIE'S A GREAT WRITER.
HE'S SO DESCRIPTIVE— YOU WANT TO READ MORE AND MORE!
THAT WAS A FOOD LIST.
PURE POETRY.
5-11

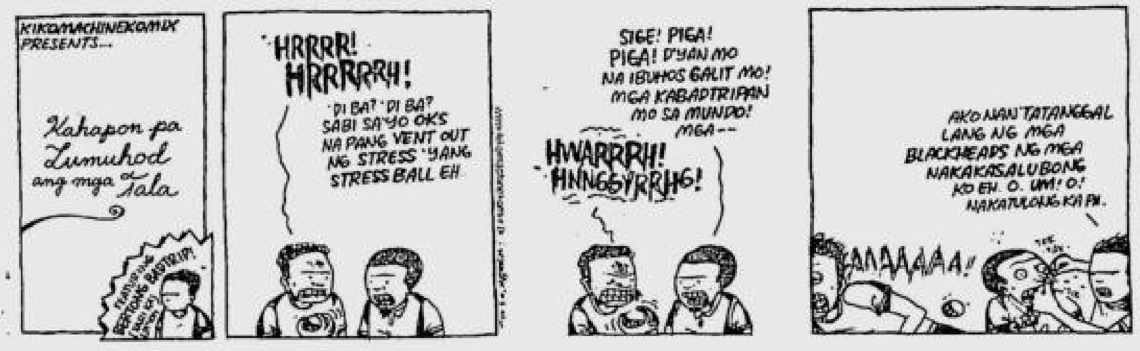
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


OF ALL THE PLACES TO BE TRAPPED IN, WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THIS DREAM SEQUENCE?!
I HATE THIS PLACE. IT'S SO DARK AND CLAMMY AND, AND.
I HEARD SLEEPING BEAUTY STAYED IN SOMETHING LIKE THIS WHEN SHE TOOK A NAP FOR 100 YEARS
THERE'S A CELEBRITY SIGHTING? WHERE? WHERE?!

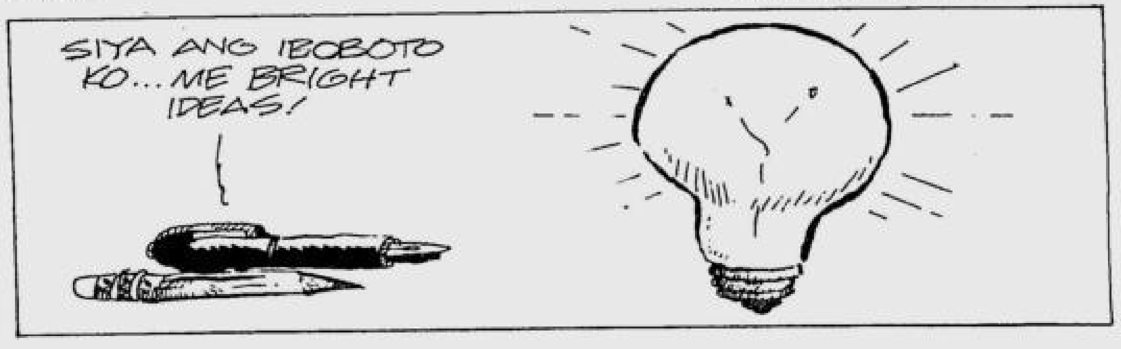
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


KIKOMACHINEKOMIX PRESENTS...
Kahapon pa Lumuhod ang mga Tala
HRRRR! HRRRRRH!
DI BA? DI BA? SABI SA'YO OK'S NA PANG VENT OUT NG STRESS 'YANG STRESS BALL EH
SIGE! PIGA! PIGA! D'YAN MO NA IBUHOS GALIT MO! MGA KABADTRIPAN MO SA MUNDO! MGA--
HWARRRH! HNNGGYRRHG!
AKO NAN TATANGGAL LANG NG MGA BLACKHEADS NG MGA NAKAKASALUBONG KO EH. O. UM! O! NAKATULONG KA PA.
AAAAAAA!

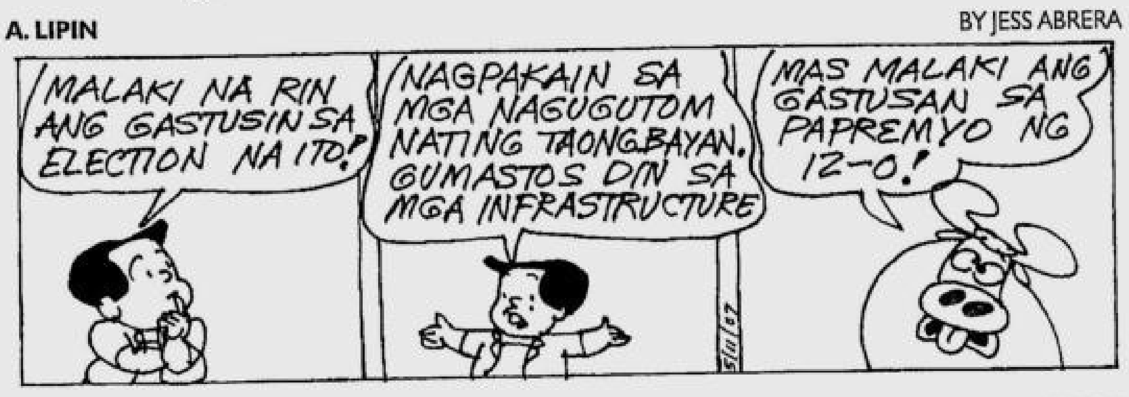
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


SIYA ANG IBOBOTO KO... ME BRIGHT IDEAS!

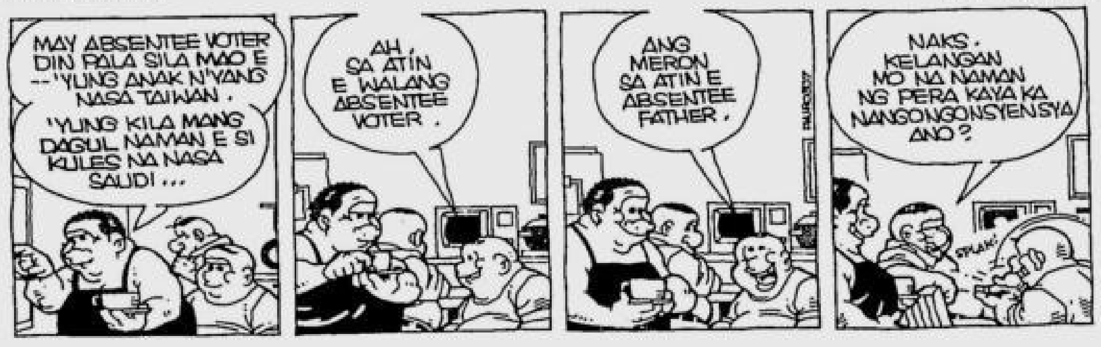
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


MALAKI NA RIN ANG GASTUSIN SA ELECTION NA ITO!
NAGPAKAIN SA MGA NAGUGUTOM NATING TAONGBAYAN. GUMASTOS DIN SA MGA INFRASTRUCTURE
MAS MALAKI ANG GASTUSAN SA PAPREMYO NG 12-0!
5/11/07

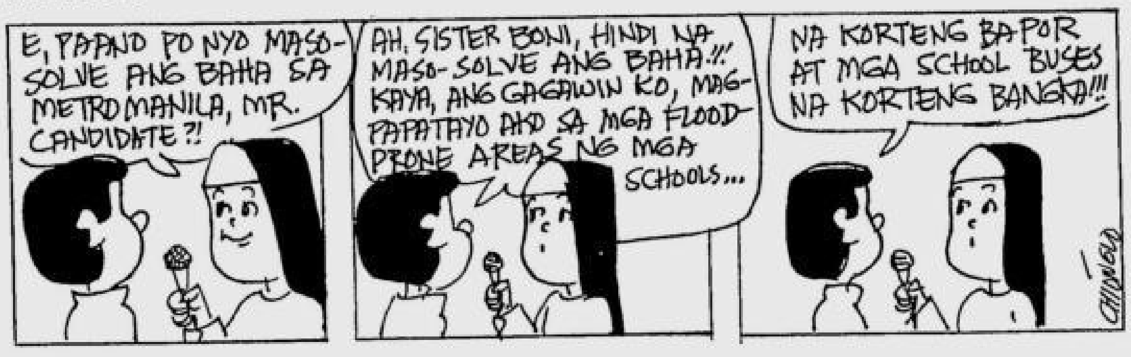
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MAY ABSENTEE VOTER DIN PALA SILA MAO E -- 'YUNG ANAK N'YANG NASA TAIWAN.
'YUNG KILA MANG DAGUL NAMAN E SI KULES NA NASA SAUDI...
AH, SA ATIN E WALANG ABSENTEE VOTER.
ANG MERON SA ATIN E ABSENTEE FATHER.
NAKS. KELANGAN MO NA NAMAN NG PERA KAYA KA NANGONGONSYENSYA ANO?
SPLAK!

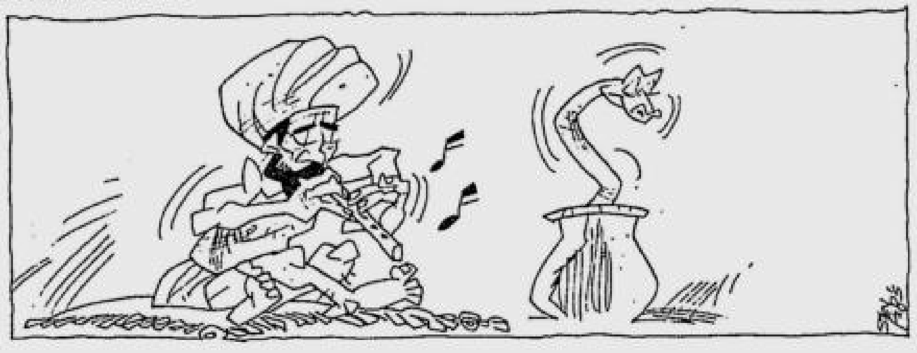
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


E, PAPANO PO NYO MASO-SOLVE ANG BAHA SA METRO MANILA, MR. CANDIDATE?!
AH, SISTER BONI, HINDI NA MASO-SOLVE ANG BAHA!!! KAYA, ANG GAGAWIN KO, MAGPAPATAYO AKO SA MGA FLOOD-PRONE AREAS NG MGA SCHOOLS...
NA KORTENG BAPOR AT MGA SCHOOL BUSES NA KORTENG BANGKA!!!
CHIONGLO

DIVINE COMEDY

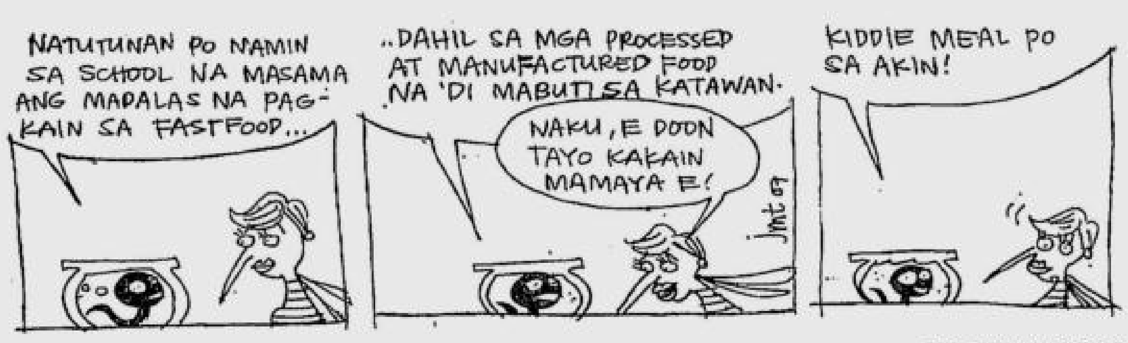
BY STEVEN PABALINAS



A NEW BOLLYWOOD STAR EMERGES

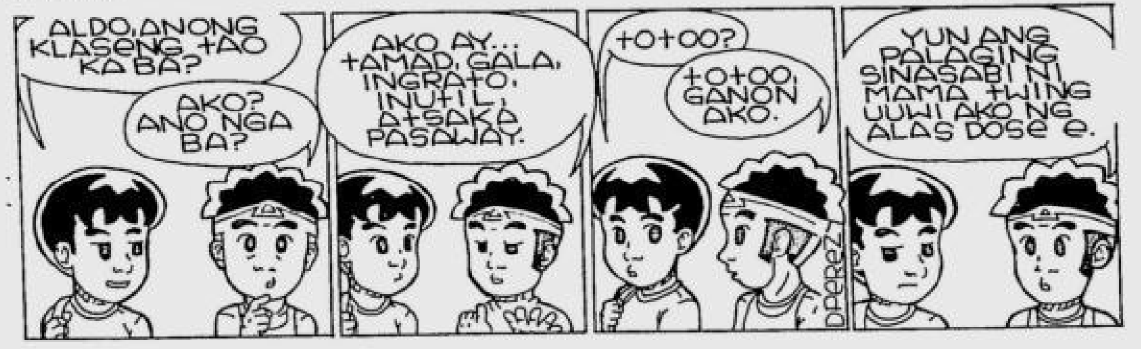
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


NATUTUNAN PO NAMIN SA SCHOOL NA MASAMA ANG MADALAS NA PAGKAIN SA FASTFOOD...
..DAHIL SA MGA PROCESSED AT MANUFACTURED FOOD NA 'DI MABUTI SA KATAWAN.
NAKU, E DOON TAYO KAKAIN MAMAYA E!
KIDDIE MEAL PO SA AKIN!
jmt 07

SALAMIN

BY DARWIN PEREZ


ALDO, ANONG KLASENG TAO KA BA?
AKO? ANO NGA BA?
AKO AY... TAMAD, GALA, INGRATO, INUTIL, ATSAKA PASAWAY.
TOTOO?
TOTOO, GANON AKO.
YUN ANG PALAGING SINASABI NI MAMA TWING UUWI AKO NG ALAS DOSE E.
DPEREZ

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Magi member
7 X-ray cousin
10 Movie pooch
14 Gary of "Apollo 13"
15 Long period
16 Contends
17 Good report card
19 Charged particles
20 Actress Falco
21 Treat badly
23 Mess makers
27 Cartesian coordinate lines
29 Badger
31 Yearning
32 Bath's river
33 Calla lily family
36 Chops up
41 Pay attention to business
44 Woman's netlike cap
45 Heart or back problem?
46 '60s dance
47 Period
49 Skillful
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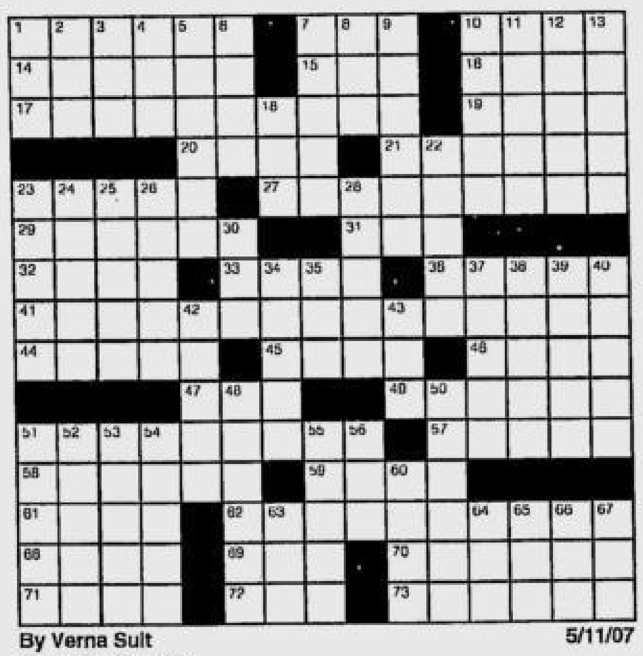
57 Freeway exits
58 Town crier's cry
59 IV alternative
61 Annapolis inst.
62 Budget for future products
68 Tick's partner
69 Choose
70 Volatile anesthetics
71 Fencing sword
72 Japanese drama
73 Analyzes chemically

DOWN
1 Jeff. Davis' nation
2 Feel poorly
3 NBC classic
4 Ms. Zadora
5 Determine a tax
6 Scan
7 Wife of Jason
8 Burgle
9 At home
10 Walled city near Madrid
11 Plains people
12 Verb form
13 Ninnies
18 Veto
22 Actress Carter
23 Fakes
24 Linda of "Alice"
25 Maine college town
26 Monopoly RR
28 Maidens of myths
30 __ Salvador
34 Ranch in "Giant"
35 L.A. school
37 Structure starter?
38 Data disk
39 Outfit
40 Some NCOs
42 In a strange way
43 Bering or Barents, e.g.
48 Titania's husband
50 Snow banks
51 "On the Beach" author
52 Fabulist
53 John __ Garner
54 Male mallard
55 "Ode to Joy" symphony
56 Goat's offspring
60 Insight
63 Mil. address
64 Sounds of uncertainty
65 PBS benefactor
66 Lacking moisture
67 Serpent's sound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By Verna Sult
Silver Spring, MD

5/11/07

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

M	A	R	L	E	N	E	■	S	S	S	■	S	D	S
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I	N	C	■	A	T	E	■	L	E	A	N	E	S	T
N	Y	E	■	T	I	S	■	A	S	S	E	R	T	S

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5/11/07

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: Because you're ruled by Venus, you love the arts. Many of you work in creative activities. You have a marvelous imagination and sense of humor. People like you because you're fun-loving. Your way of seeing the world is original and unique. You love to entertain; however, you might seek out more solitude in the coming year in order to learn something important.

Birthdate of: Natasha Richardson, actress; Matt Leinart, quarterback; Mort Sahl, comedian/political commentator

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Your desire to communicate with others will increase in the next few weeks. Expect to be chatting to everyone and running around doing errands.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You'll be increasingly concerned with money issues, shopping and how to earn more money in the month ahead. Money, money, money—where is it when you really need it?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Today Mercury moves into your sign, where it will stay for the next few weeks. This definitely makes you want to communicate more. Get out there, and wheel and deal!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Expect to be involved in some secret activities in the next few weeks. You might be doing some research, or you might just be doing some private, behind-the-scenes stuff.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): In the month ahead, make a point of talking to others about your goals for the future. This is an excellent time to do this, because their feedback will be helpful

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Discussions with parents, bosses and authority figures will be significant in the next few weeks. Do your homework. Don't be afraid to ask for what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Travel plus exploring new ideas or starting new studies are wonderful choices for you in the month ahead. You're eager to expand your experience of the world!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Now is the time to tackle insurance matters, debt, taxes, wills, inheritances and other red-tape details. You have the will to get some of this stuff done now. Wonderful!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Today Mercury moves opposite your sign, where it will stay for the next four weeks. This gives you more opportunities to talk to partners and close friends. Blah, blah, blah.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Expect co-workers to be supportive and communicative in the next few weeks. Similarly, if you have something to say at work, now is the time to do it!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Mental games, playful activities and puzzles will intrigue you in the next few weeks. You will also experience an increased interest in movies, the theater and sports. Enjoy!

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Home repairs and family discussions will take place in the next few weeks. You can get a lot done then. Others will help you.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

	5	9	6					8
			7					
		1			2			
	6					2		1
			9	5	4			
4		8					7	
			5			7		
					8			
2					7	9	6	

Difficulty Level ★★★★

5/11

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HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

7	1	5	9	4	2	3	8	6
2	6	9	8	5	3	1	7	4
8	3	4	1	7	6	2	9	5
1	8	6	4	2	7	9	5	3
3	4	2	5	8	9	6	1	7
5	9	7	3	6	1	4	2	8
9	7	1	6	3	5	8	4	2
4	5	3	2	1	8	7	6	9
6	2	8	7	9	4	5	3	1

Difficulty Level ★★★

Johnny Depp talks about 'Pirates' . . .

From page G4

shooting was very fast and in makeshift conditions sometimes. In lower budget or independent cinema, there was sometimes no budget for special effects. Then I moved to TV, where everything has to be done even faster because you're sometimes shooting 12 to 14 pages [of script] a day.

And then you go into something like "Pirates," where you're shooting something for weeks that will amount to only two to three seconds onscreen—that's a real eye-opener. The process is so huge. But when you see the finished product—for example, the maelstrom in "Pirates 3"—it's ultimately worth it.

How has the tremendous popularity of your Captain Jack Sparrow and the "Pirates" movies affected you, especially on a personal level?

The character of Captain Jack Sparrow has given me a lot of things. Majority of you know I was the guy who bounced around the industry for years. I'd be lucky if five to 10 people would see my movies. But playing Captain Jack did a big flip for me in that regard. The "Pirates" movies afforded my family and me a certain luxury. We are able to live a little more comfortably here and there and hopefully, it will continue to benefit my kids and their kids.

As you just mentioned, these "Pirates" movies are a blessing to your family. You now have an island (in the Caribbean) that's a sanctuary from your public life. What is life like for you and your family when you are there?

Oh, it's amazing. To be able to say, "When we go back to our island," that in itself is so insane and ludicrous. I am still not comfortable saying it. But what I will say is, whatever deal you make with the devil that is Hollywood, so to speak, whatever you give up to be able to go to the island with my girl and kiddies [is worth it]. To be where it's just us, where movies, celebrity or whatever you call these things don't exist, is really a gift from God. I don't know how to explain it better than that. We have the opportunity to be normal there and it's pretty wonderful.

Loyalty is one of the themes in these movies and in your current projects. You are also loyal to Tim Burton, who is directing you again in "Sweeney Todd." Can you talk about loyalty?

Loyalty to me is pretty much everything, whether it's to family and friends. It's an ideal that you just never abandon. Tim is a brother, an old friend and a filmmaker whom I worship. If anybody took a risk in "Sweeney Todd," it was Tim asking me to play Sweeney because neither he nor I knew if I could sing before I accepted.

You are singing for the first time onscreen in "Sweeney Todd." How's that experience so far? Is this your first time to play the father of a 20-year-old?

An actor going into a recording studio and singing for the first time in his life at age 43—that's very strange (laughter). I wouldn't recommend it. I feel okay about what I have been able to do but it's a very strange process. When Tim asked if I wanted to play the role, I said, "Sure." He said, "Can you sing?" I said, "I don't know—I'll get back to you (laughter). I'll let you know." I ended up going into a recording studio with a friend of mine and I just sang to the tracks to find out if I could do it at all. It's not unlike the mating call of a rutting stag. It's a very strange sound but so far, I have not been fired, which is good. We'll see. I hope you like it.

Stephen (Sondheim) did some alterations to the score for the film version. There are certain things that work in a play but you don't need in cinema. Stephen was terrific about it, making those little trims, alterations or segues. As far as playing the father of a 20-year-old (laughter), I've never done that before although I think she's supposed to be 16. Now, we are splitting hairs, aren't we (laughter)? The fact is, I could theoretically be the father of someone approaching 30, which is a little scary.

What movie would you like to be remembered for?

That's a really tough one. As it stands, at the moment, it's probably "Pirates." "Pirates" is the one that people know of certainly the most. Captain Jack is the most memorable and the most recent in people's minds. But for me, on a very personal and emotional level—I don't know if I necessarily want to be remembered for it. The one that's most important to me is "Edward Scissorhands" because it was the beginning—I was just arriving on a road that I felt I needed to be on. "Edward Scissorhands" was a very important moment and choice for me. It was the beginning of my relationship with Tim (Burton).

Will this be the last "Pirates" movie?

I don't know the answer to that one. This movie series was approached as a trilogy so they're done in that sense. The industry leaves open the possibility of "Pirates 4 and 5" which, to be honest, I am not opposed to. Because on a very selfish actor level, there's a lot more territory I'd love to explore as Captain Jack. I never felt like I was really done playing the character. I would definitely consider doing more. If all the right ingredients are there, why wouldn't we try a 4, 5 or 6?

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 SPIDER-MAN 3 MTRCB GP 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
2 SPIDER-MAN 3 MTRCB GP 11:30, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30
3 28 WEEKS LATER MTRCB R-13 12:40 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
4 LUCKY YOU MTRCB. PG-13 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
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DOLBY DIGITAL

28 WEEKS LATER R13 1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20	SPIDER-MAN 3 G 12:40,3:40,6:40,9:40	SPIDER-MAN 3 G 11:50,2:50,5:50,8:50
LUCKY YOU PG13 2:45,5:20,7:55,10:30	THE CONDEMNED R13 12:50,3:15,5:40, 8:05,10:30	SPIDER-MAN 3 G 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:30

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CONDEMNED 1:30 / 4:10 / 6:50 / 9:30
LUCKY YOU 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20
THE PLATINUM CINEMA
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
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PERFECT STRANGER 1:40 / 4:20 / 7:00 / 9:40
SPIDERMAN 3 12:15 / 3:10 / 6:05 / 9:00
ALIMALL 5
1 28 WEEKS LATER 12:05 / 2:15 / 4:25 / 6:35 / 8:45
2 SHOOTER 12:35 / 3:10 / 5:45 / 8:20
3 SPIDERMAN 3 12:00 / 2:40 / 5:20 / 8:00
4 ANG CUTE NG INA MO 12:30 / 2:30 / 4:30 / 6:30 / 8:30
5 CONDEMNED 12:10 / 2:50 / 5:30 / 8:10
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1 LUCKY YOU 2:55, 5:40, 8:25, 11:00 PG-13
2 SPIDER-MAN 3 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30 G
3 SPIDER-MAN 3 1:30, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00 G
4 28 WEEKS LATER 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 R-13

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2 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN 3
3 (DOLBY) 28 WEEKS LATER
4 (DOLBY) LUCKY YOU
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN 3

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City Tel 816.4214 / 816.4236
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 28 WEEKS LATER
4 CONDEMNED

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7268160
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) CONDEMNED
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 6433094
1 THE SHOOTER
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4 28 WEEKS LATER

THEATRES
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SUNSHINE

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-5271
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 RESRVED
4 RESRVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4 28 WEEKS LATER
5 THE CONDEMNED
6 SPIDER-MAN-3
7 LUCKY YOU
8 THE REAPING
9 WILD HOGS
10 PERFECT STRANGER

Blue Wave MARL MINTON
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9346927
1 (DOLBY) THE CONDEMNED
2 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN-3
3 (DOLBY) 28 WEEKS LATER
4 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN-3

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228
1 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 28 WEEKS LATER
4 LUCKY YOU
5 THE CONDEMNED

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 ZOMBIES
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4 RESERVED

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2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 PAN'S LABYRINTH

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1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3

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1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 THE CHANTING
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1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3

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2 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN-3
3 (DOLBY) SPIDER-MAN-3
4 (DOLBY) 28 WEEKS LATER

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Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 SUNSHINE
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 TURISTAS
3 SPIDER-MAN-3

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 ROCKY BALBOA
2 THE CHANTING
3 SPIDER-MAN-3
4 SPIDER-MAN-3

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 THE REAPING
3 SPIDER-MAN-3

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SPIDER-MAN-3

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 THE HILLS HAVE EYES
2 ANG CUTE NG INA MO

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 MASAHISTA
3 BIGLANG LIKO
4 RUMBLE BOYS

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 BASA SA DAGAT
3 SUNSHINE
4 KATAS
5 SATANICA

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 PICK UP GIRL
2 SPIDER-MAN-3
3 SUNSHINE
4 SPIDER-MAN-3

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 SPIDER-MAN-3
2 SATANICA

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Johnny Depp talks about 'Pirates'...and Lily-Rose

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

Fil-Am actor Reggie Lee is 'At World's End'

LOS ANGELES—A FEW MOMENTS before our interview via satellite with **Johnny Depp**, we were requested not to ask questions about his daughter **Lily-Rose**, who is recovering from a very serious E. coli virus infection.

But Johnny, who showed himself to us on a giant monitor from a London hotel room while we were at the Beverly Hilton, appeared to be so grateful about his beloved daughter's recovery, he brought up the good news himself.

The London filming of the movie adaptation of **Stephen Sondheim's** great musical, "Sweeney Todd," had been temporarily halted so Johnny could be with his wife, singer-actress **Vanessa Paradis**—she's monitoring Lily-Rose's condition in a hospital.

Wearing several layers of clothing in black and white—tie, long-sleeved shirt, vest, T-shirt—Johnny, ever the sweet husband and daddy, beamed as he talked about his "girl" (Vanessa) and "kiddies" (his term of endearment for Lily-Rose and his son **Jack**).

About five minutes of Johnny's third appearance as the beloved character Captain Jack Sparrow in "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," was shown to us. The movie reunites him with **Keira Knightley**, **Orlando Bloom** and the usual cast, and features an international gallery of actors appearing in the franchise for the first time, including Asian actor **Chow Yun-Fat**. Based on what we saw, "At World's End" could be the most spectacular in the series, with buccaneers and locations representing all corners of the globe.

Fil-Am in the cast

Reggie Lee, a Tagalog-speaking native of Quezon City, appears as Tai Huang. Among this Fil-Am actor's credits are the films "The Fast and the Furious" (as Lance Nguyen) and "Drift" (as the romantic lead in this indie film) and Fox TV's "Prison Break" (current role as Special Agent William "Bill" Kim). Incidentally, Johnny has been to the Philippines, where he worked on **Oliver Stone's** "Platoon."

Major point of interest among the reporters present was the much-awaited appearance in "At World's End" of legendary Rolling Stones guitarist **Keith Richards**, Johnny's inspiration for his Captain Jack character. We can't wait to see Keith and Johnny as black mascara-ed father and son.

You are approaching your mid-40s. Can you talk about this stage in your life?

I'm at a stage in my life where I need to be. This year, there was a bumpy patch in terms of my daughter's illness which, to let you know, she got through beautifully, unscathed. She's healthy now. She's wonderful. It gave us a great scare—a perspective, a reminder of how lucky we are to be able to breathe, live, walk, talk, think and surround ourselves with people we love.

REGGIE LEE

JOHNNY DEPP

What gave you strength in your trying times?

What got us through our trying times was not my strength or Vanessa's. It was more the strength of our daughter, her incredible ability to make us feel okay even though she was in a difficult place. She was very unwell but she was so strong and amazing. No question about it.

What do you look forward to?

What I want for the future is, health and happiness for my kids, my family, and people in general. Not to sound corny, but regardless of where we come from or who we believe in or how many gods we have in our head, we must enjoy life, make the best of what's happening right now.

Any immediate plans?

I am finishing "Sweeney Todd" in a few days. Vanessa and the kiddies have been enjoying the South of France, the beautiful weather down there and all is well in that regard.

I'm going to take some time off in early 2008 and just be with Vanessa and my kiddies. Vanessa has a new album coming out in the fall. She'll have to tour for it—we'll be around for that.

We heard it was a big day when Keith Richards arrived for the first time on the set.

When Keith turned up for his first day of work, members of the crew whom we hadn't seen in two years, or people who worked behind the scenes—in accounting, publicity, wherever—suddenly were on the set. Without question, it was a great time and it did work out.

The best analogy I can come up with is that he arrived like a gunslinger, mesmerized the town—the crew—and then split. He was beautiful. He brought so much to the film and to the character. It was like a nice bookend, like meeting Captain Jack in "Pirates 1." It's good to see where he came from, to see his father.

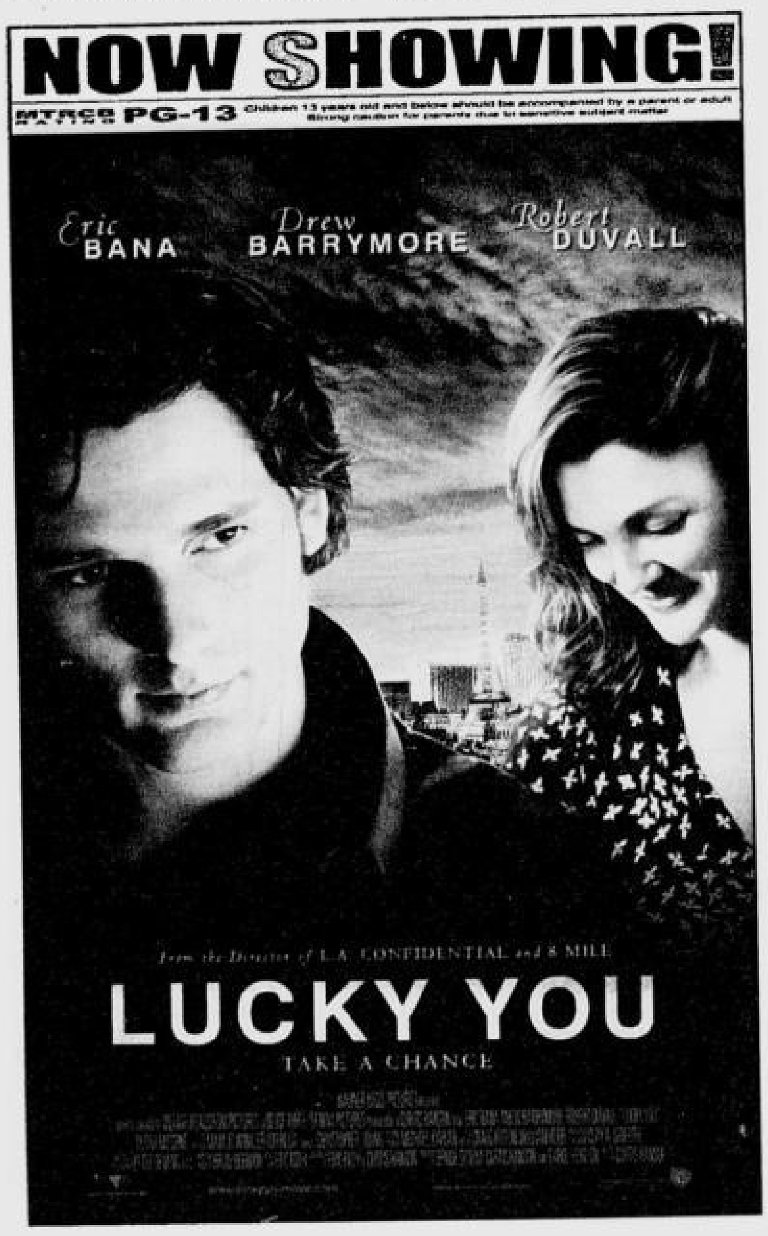
"Spider-Man" shattered all box-office records including those set by your "Pirates" movies. Do you expect this new "Pirates" movie to top that?

No way (laughter). Why would I expect that? I didn't expect "Pirates 1" or "Pirates 2" to do what they did. To think that "Pirates 3" would come anywhere near what "Pirates 2" did, I wouldn't even dream of it. We've been lucky so we might as well just sit back and enjoy the ride.

How has Hollywood's growing dependence on expensive, spectacular special effects paralleled your own career?

I started out in low-budget movies and then went into films like "Platoon" back in 1986 when

JOHNNY/ G3


NOW SHOWING!
MTRCB PG-13
Eric BANA
Drew BARRYMORE
Robert DUVALL
From the Director of L.A. CONFIDENTIAL and 8 MILE
LUCKY YOU
TAKE A CHANCE

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! Ayala Malls

AT THE CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 28 WEEKS LATER	2 SPIDER-MAN 3	3 THE CONDEMNED	4 SPIDER-MAN 3			
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 SPIDER-MAN 3	2 LUCKY YOU	3 THX SPIDER-MAN 3 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 PERFECT STRANGERS	5 THE CONDEMNED	6 SPIDER-MAN 3	7 28 WEEKS LATER
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 LUCKY YOU	2 SPIDER-MAN 3					
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX SPIDER-MAN 3 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SPIDER-MAN 3 GUARANTEED SEATS	3 28 WEEKS LATER GUARANTEED SEATS	4 LUCKY YOU GUARANTEED SEATS	5 SPIDER-MAN 3 GUARANTEED SEATS		
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX SPIDER-MAN 3 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 SPIDER-MAN 3	3 LUCKY YOU	4 THE CONDEMNED	5 28 WEEKS LATER		
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 SPIDER-MAN 3	2 SPIDER-MAN 3	3	4 GRAY MATTERS			
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1 SPIDER-MAN 3	2 LUCKY YOU	3 28 WEEKS LATER	4 THE CONDEMNED	5 SPIDER-MAN 3		

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 9pm
Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 9pm
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Laguna Expo May 7 to 13, 2007	One Shot Encounter w/ NIGEL BARKER May 11, 2007 - 6PM
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Nesvita Sampling Booth at Paseos May 11 & 12, 2007	Strawberry Shortcake & Friends: The Big Berry Bake Off May 11 to 13, 2007

GREENBELT — Greenbelt 2 Dinner Theatre presents: Broadway Showstoppers
May 15 & 22, 2007

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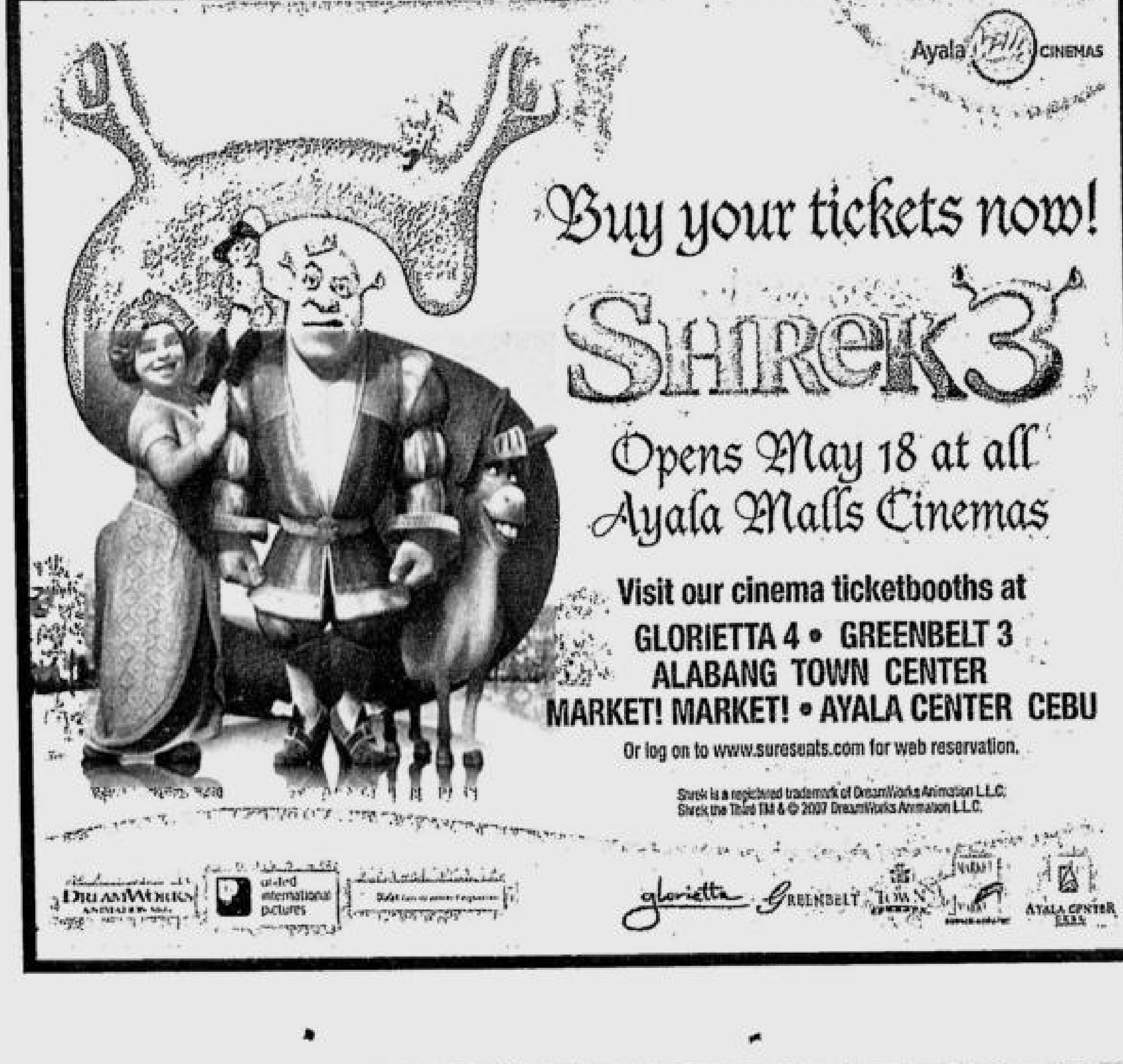
Ayala MUSEUM — CHINESE DIASPORA: Art Streams from the Mainland (six shows)
Ongoing until May 27, 2007
For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org


Ayala Malls CINEMAS
Buy your tickets now!
SHREK 3
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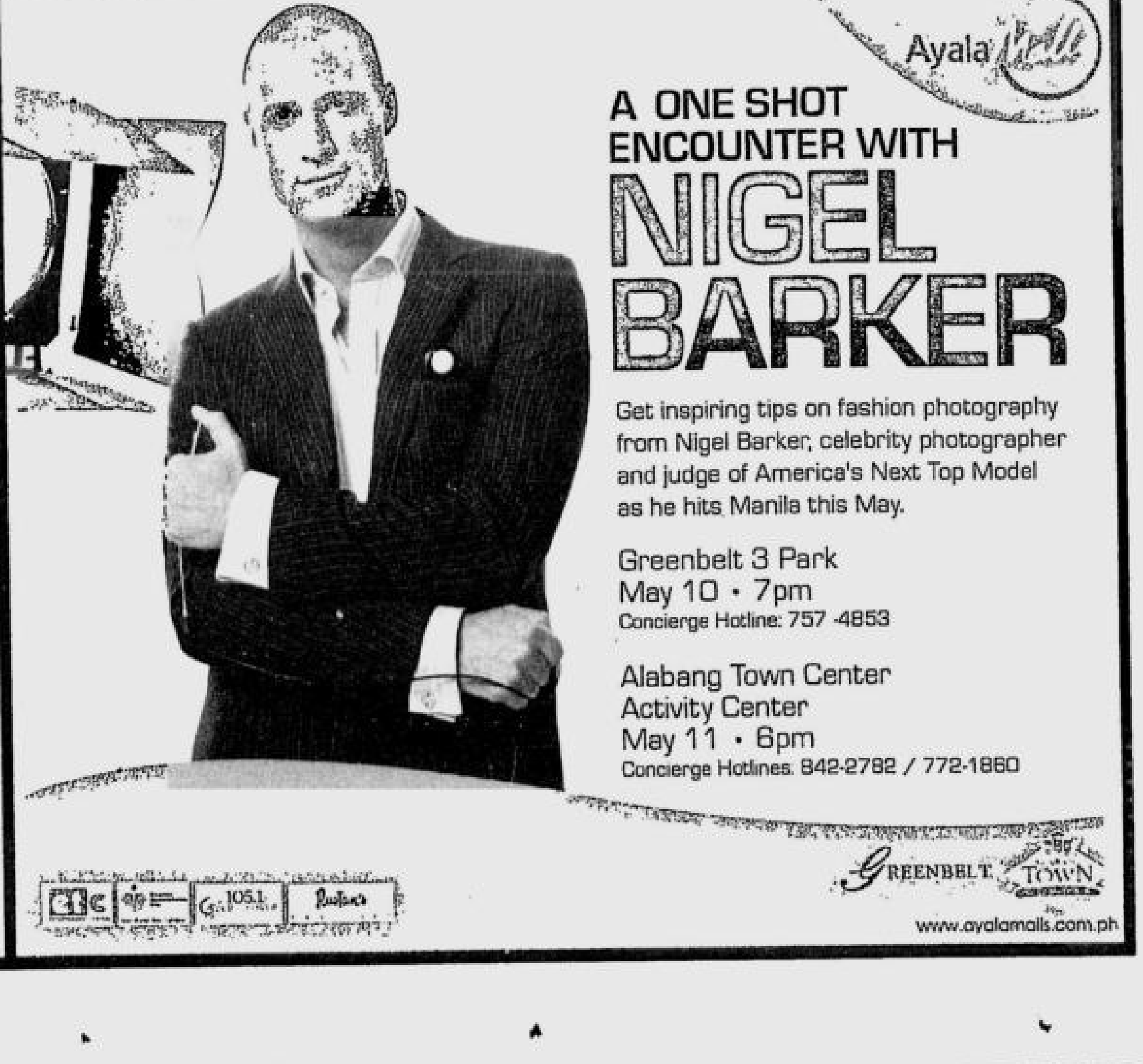
Ayala Malls
A ONE SHOT ENCOUNTER WITH
NIGEL BARKER
Get inspiring tips on fashion photography from Nigel Barker, celebrity photographer and judge of America's Next Top Model as he hits Manila this May.
Greenbelt 3 Park
May 10 • 7pm
Concierge Hotline: 757 -4853
Alabang Town Center
Activity Center
May 11 • 6pm
Concierge Hotlines: 842-2782 / 772-1860
GREENBELT TOWN
www.ayalamalls.com.ph

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LIVING Stars

Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment

Editor Em

sms feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (G art) or email us at pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

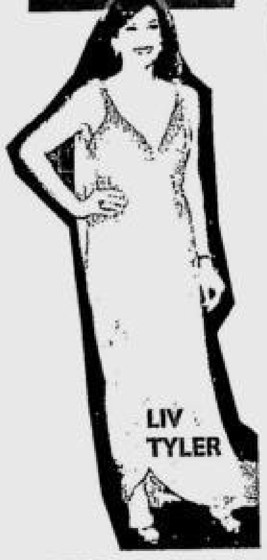
JENNIFER GARNER
RED CARPET

Fashion benefit

THE Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute benefit gala, "Poiret: King of Fashion" was held in NY on May 7.

CAMERON DIAZ

CLAIRE DANES


LIV TYLER

JULIANNE MOORE

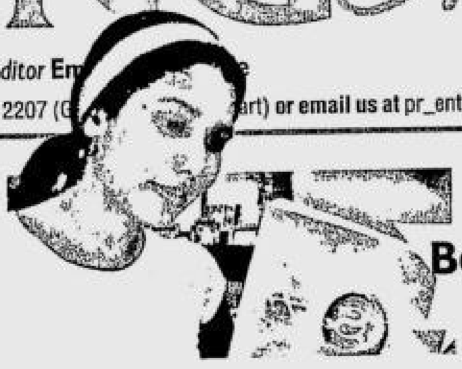
DEBORAH MESSING

FAVORITE NOOKS

DINGDONG DANTES

This Batman costume is based on a photo from the "Batman Begins" book which [my girlfriend] Karylle gave me. I have another Batman costume that I bought online, but it's not from the latest movie. I also had a Batman house constructed. No, it's not a bat cave and there are no spelunking activities there—it's actually a casing. I keep the costumes in a secret room behind revolving shelves. The Batman costume, however, is considered rare and is the latest addition to my super-hero collectibles. No, I haven't worn it; I am still waiting for the bat signal!

Bayani San Diego Jr.



KARYLLE

"The Secret" by Rhonda Brynes helps me a lot, especially now that I'm writing songs for my new album. Sometimes, when things don't go your way, you get discouraged. This book helps me to think positive.

Marinel R. Cruz

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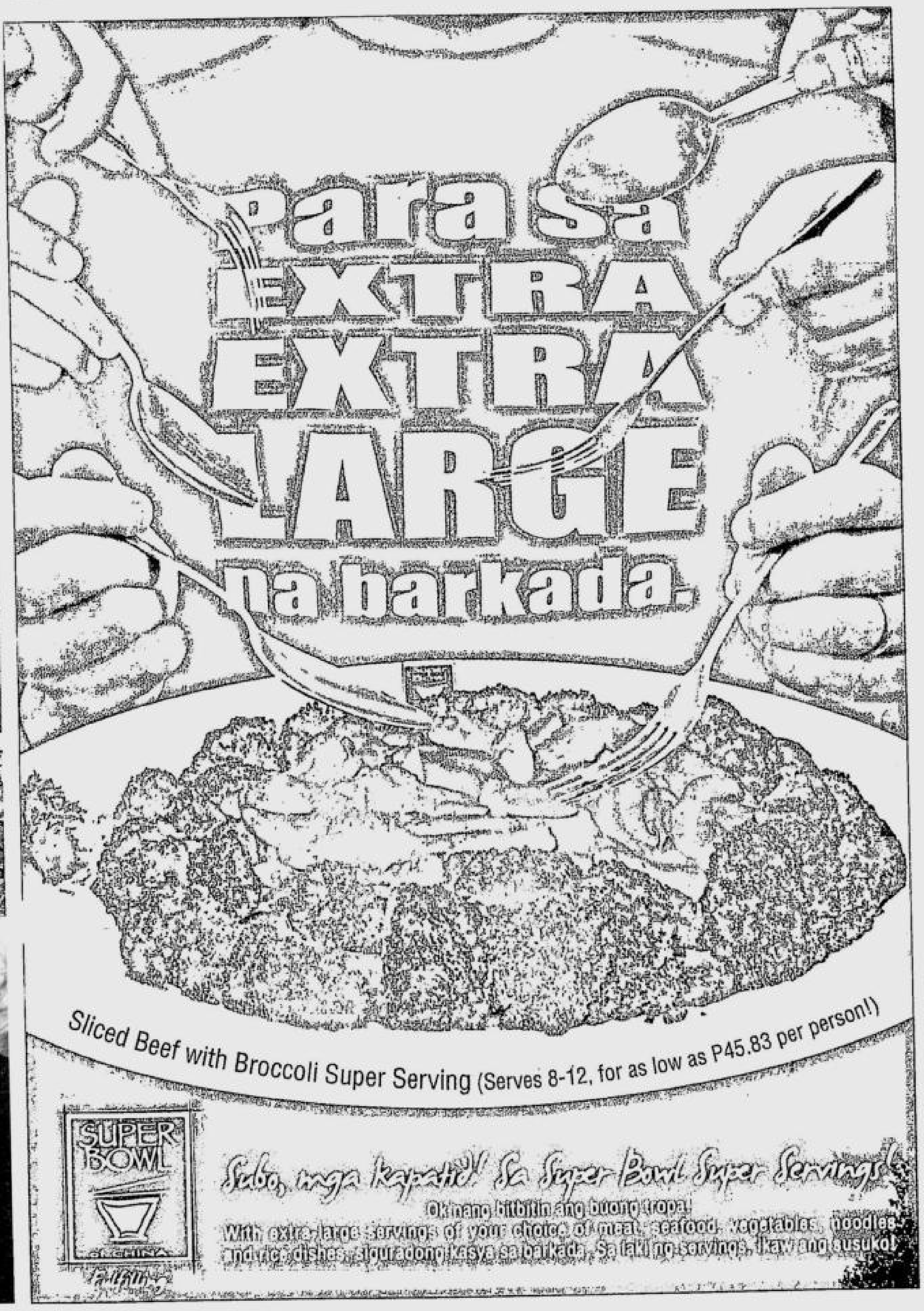
THE CONDEMNED


Para sa EXTRA EXTRA LARGE na barkada.
Sliced Beef with Broccoli Super Serving (Serves 8-12, for as low as P45.83 per person!)
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Subo, mga kapatid! Sa Super Bowl Super Servings!
Ok nang bitbitin ang buong tropa!
With extra-large servings of your choice of meat, seafood, vegetables, noodles and rice dishes, siguradong kasya sa barkada. Sa laki ng servings, ikaw ang susuko!

Summer Bangketa Fair

Strut your stuff this season with the hottest fashion finds. Visit the Greenhills Shopping Center Summer Bangketa Fair and get the latest swimwear for less than P1,000! Plus, get shorts, tops, sandals and other accessories at bargain prices. Fair runs from April 13 to May 14, 2007.

GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER
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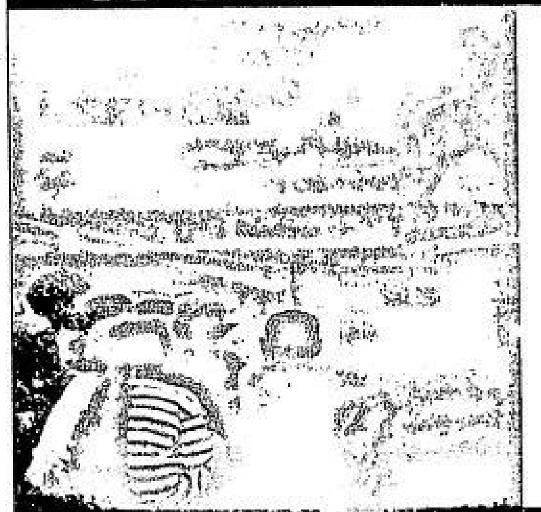
GALLERIA Ticket Price THX: P161 131 Indie Sine : 101 632-9116

1 SPIDER-MAN 3 • THX
1:15 4:05 6:55 9:45
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
10:40 1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00
3 LUCKY YOU
12.00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
4 THE CONDEMNED
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
5 28 WEEKS LATER
1:10 3.20 5:30 7:40 9:50
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
1:00 3:50 6:40 9:30
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
3:20 6:10 9:00
8 indieSine: MANORO
1:10 3:00 4:50 6:40 8:30
9 PERFECT STRANGER
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
10 PAN'S LABYRINTH
12:20 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40

NOW SHOWING



BRILLANTE MENDOZA'S
MANORO
the aeta teacher

Are you VOTING with a CONSCIENCE?

Witness the story of a 13-year old Aeta who teaches her fellow Aetas how to read and write to enable them to vote!

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Cinemanila International Film Festival
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Exclusive @ IndieSine, Robinsons Galleria!

ERMITA [illegible] 536-7809 to 12

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
10:25 1:20 4:15 7 10 10:00
2 LUCKY YOU
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
12:10 3:05 6:00 9:00
4 THE CONDEMNED
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
5 28 WEEKS LATER
12.40 2:55 5:10 7:30 10:00
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
12:45 3:30 6:15 9:00

METRO EAST [illegible] 682-8193 / 682-8199

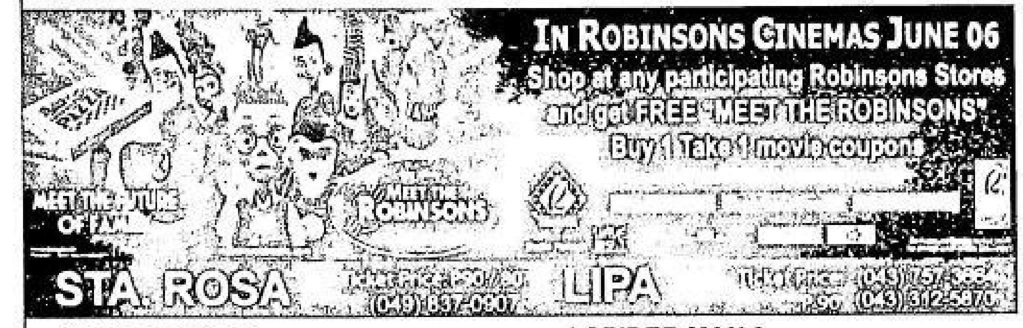
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
12:00 2:40 5:20 8:00
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00
4 28 WEEKS LATER
11:25 1:50 4:15 6:40 9:05
5 THE CONDEMNED
1:20 3:55 6:30 9:05
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
1:40 4:20 7:00
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
11:00 1:40 4.50 7:00 9:30
8 WILD HOGS
12:50 2.50 4:50 6:50 9:00

NOVALICHES Ticket Price 101 / 91 935-3237 / 935-3229-30

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 28 WEEKS LATER
6 THE CONDEMNED

PIONEER Ticket Price P110 / 100 687-5378

1 28 WEEKS LATER
12:50 3:30 6:10 8.50
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
12 50 3:30 6:10 8:50
3 THE CONDEMNED
1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40
4 LUCKY YOU
1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40



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STA. ROSA Ticket Price: P90 / 80 (049) 837-0907

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 THE CHANTING
4 SUNSHINE
5 SHOOTER

LIPA Ticket Price: P90 (043) 757-3886 (043) 312-5870

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SUNSHINE
3 GRAY MATTERS
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 NORBIT

DASMARINAS Ticket Price: P90 / 80 (046) 416-4332

1 NORBIT
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 FIREHOUSE DOG
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SHOOTER

ANGELES Ticket Price: P90 (045) 892-2349

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SHOOTER
3 THE LAST MIMZY
4 THE CHANTING

IMUS Ticket Price: P100 (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SHOOTER
4 FIREHOUSE DOG
5 PAN'S LABYRINTH
6 RUMBLEBOY

STARMILLS Ticket Price: P90 / 80 (045) 875-1921

1 THE LAST MIMZY
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 THE CHANTING
4 SHOOTER
5 GRAY MATTERS
6 SPIDER-MAN 3

BACOLOD Ticket Price: P70 (034) 441-0459

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 ROCKY BALBOA / SPIDER-MAN 3
3 RESERVE
4 THE REAPING
5 NORBIT
6 PREMONITION

ILOILO Ticket Price: P80.50 / 70.50 (033) 336-8070

1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 THE REAPING
3 SHOOTER
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 THE LAST MIMZY
6 ROCKY BALBOA

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THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 SPIDERMAN 3 10:20 , 1:10 , 4:00 6:50 , 9:40 GP
CINEMA 2 28 WEEKS LATER 10:50 , 1:05 , 3:20 5:35 , 7:50 , 10:10 R-13
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

PROMENADE GREENHILLS
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NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 3 LUCKY YOU 11:20 , 2:10 , 5:00 7:50 , 10:35 PG-13
CINEMA 4 SPIDERMAN 3 11:35 , 2:25 , 5:15 8:05 , 10:50 GP
CINEMA 5 SPIDERMAN 3 11:00 , 1:50 , 4:40 7:30 , 10:20 GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

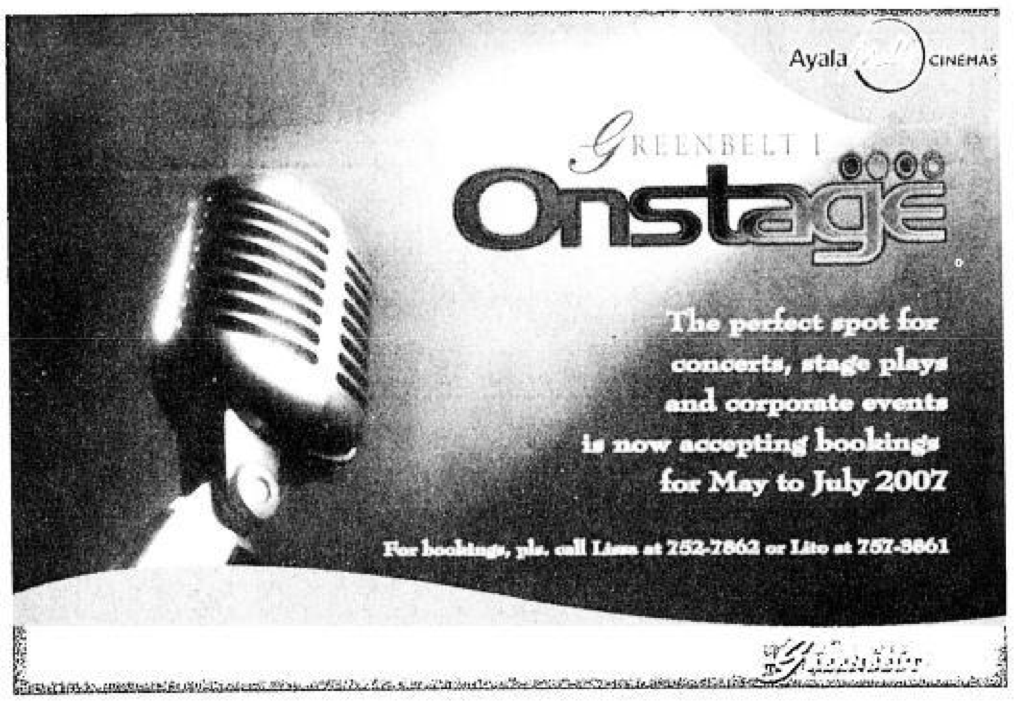
MUSIC MUSEUM	May 11 & 12 , 2007	Rock the Vote " The Repeat "	8:00 PM
	May 18 , 2007	CHRISTIAN BAUTISTA	8:00 PM
	May 19 & 26 , 2007	OGIE ALCASID & SITTI	8:00 PM
	June 15 & 16 , 2007	Rico J. Puno & Mitch Valdez	8:00 PM
TEATRINO PROMENADE GREENHILLS	EVERY MONDAY	DANCE NIGHT	7:00 PM
	May 31 , 2007	RJ Jimenez	8:30 PM
	May 11 , 18 , 25 , 2007	Drag - Ons	9:00 PM
	JUNE 15 , 2007	Champion of the World (Jed Madela)	8:30 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

SHERYN REGIS

I love "The Friendship Factor" by Alan Loy McGinnis. It was given to me by one of my closest friends before moving to the United States. It's special to me because of that, but it's also a valuable tool for a shy person like me. It gives tips on how to win friends, get close to others, how to be more warm and caring. It made me realize that the people in my life should all be friends, whether they are relatives or buddies. I'd definitely recommend this book to everyone, especially to introverts.

Bayani San Diego Jr.



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Greenbelt 1 **Onstage**

The perfect spot for concerts, stage plays and corporate events is now accepting bookings for May to July 2007

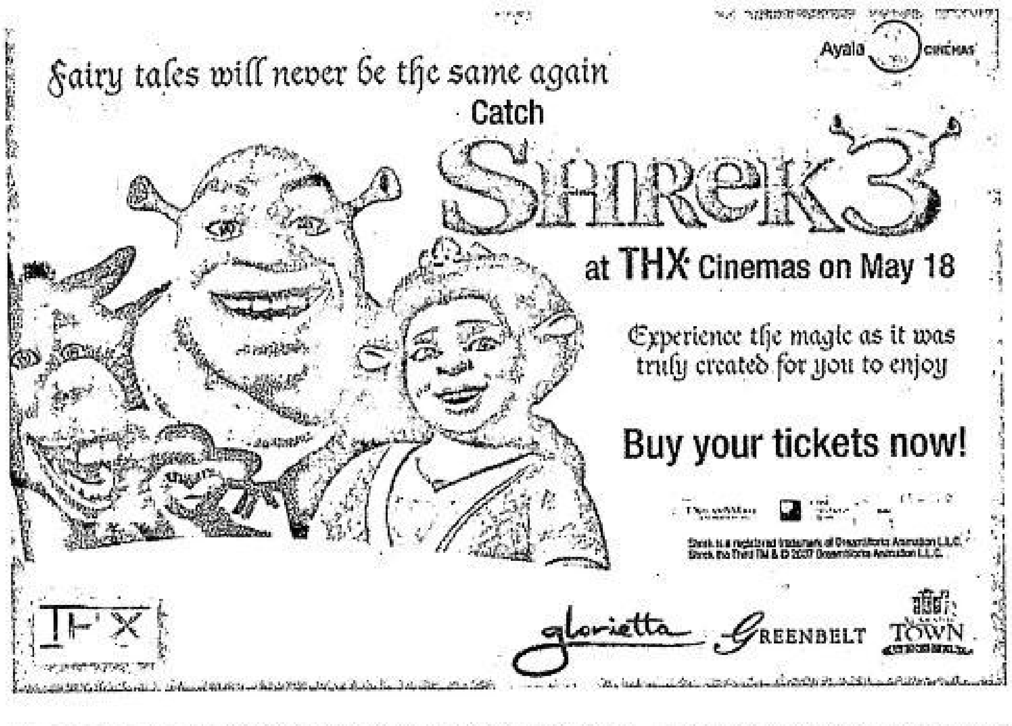
For bookings, pls. call Liza at 252-7862 or Lito at 757-8861

Greenbelt

Pirate Sa
in HK Pi

UNTIL JUNE 30 (since May 4), Hong Kong Disney's Adventureland will be Pirateland, where guests experience a "totally immersive and interactive" Pirate Takeover.

HK actor Chow Yun Fat, who plays the pirate Sao Feng in "Pirates of the Carribean 3: At World's End," visited the theme park.



Ayala Cinemas

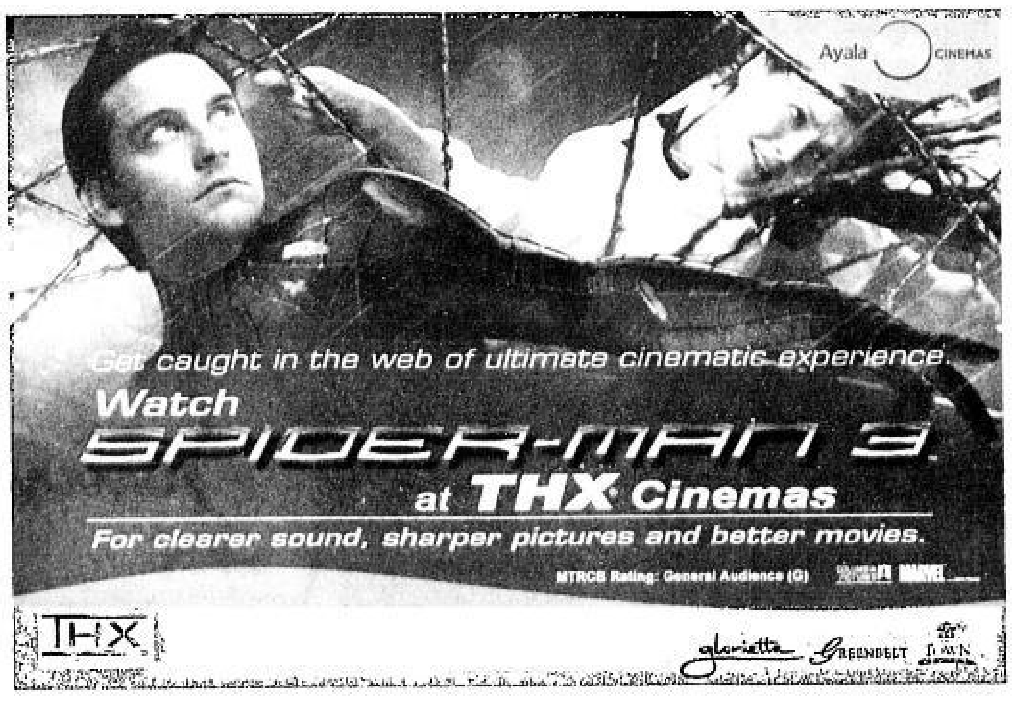
Fairy tales will never be the same again

Catch **SHREK 3** at THX Cinemas on May 18

Experience the magic as it was truly created for you to enjoy

Buy your tickets now!

THX glorietta Greenbelt Town



Ayala Cinemas

Get caught in the web of ultimate cinematic experience.
Watch **SPIDER-MAN 3** at **THX Cinemas**
For clearer sound, sharper pictures and better movies.
MTRCB Rating: General Audience (G)

THX glorietta Greenbelt Town

POSING for a souvenir p
Sparrow clone.

HE FINDS some of the p
displayed at Professor P

"BEST COPY AVAILABLE"

MOY ORTIZ OF THE COMPANY

In his younger years, my 10-year-old dachshund Matisse had almost monthly checkups and shots with the veterinarian. Now, believe it or not, he has a full-time nanny in the person of our majordomo, Mang Tiago. He takes Matisse out for long walks around our subdivision every morning and late afternoon. When I come home from a show, tired and spent, Matisse always greets me at the door. He jumps on me and messes up my clothes but I'm never bothered because he brings so much joy to my life.

Bayani San Diego Jr.

STARS FOR OTHERS

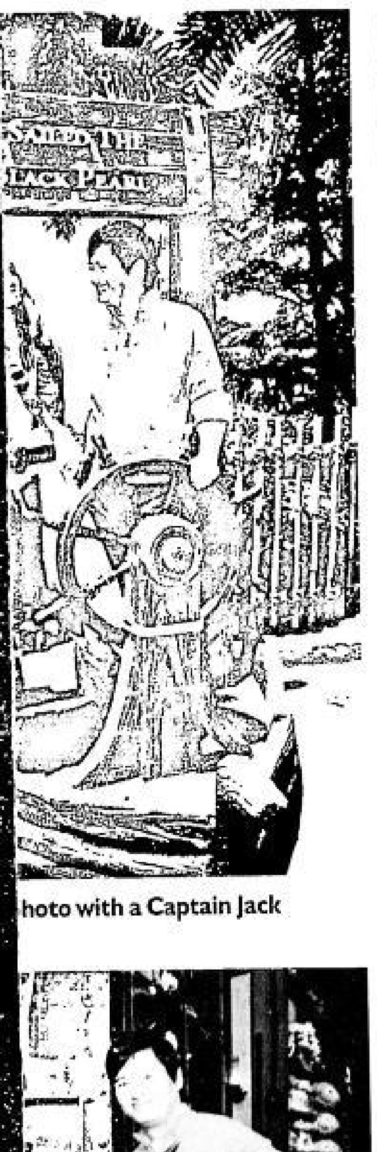
Michael J. Fox

BOSTON—Actor Michael J. Fox has appealed to scientists to aggressively translate scientific research into creative treatments for debilitating diseases, including Parkinson's, which he has fought for more than a decade. "From a patient's point of view," Fox said, "you always want to proceed at a better pace. And when you don't know where the finish line is, you don't know how fast to run." *AP*

S.

o Feng
rateland

WITH MRS. Chow, right, and two "pirates."



hoto with a Captain Jack

rops he used in the movie
rter.'s Trading Post.

2ND WEEK NATION-WIDE!
MTRCB Rating G | All Ages Admitted
THE CRITICS AGREE:
THE BEST "SPIDER-MAN" YET!
"★★★★
...THE BEST OF THE TRILOGY...
ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE FILMS OF THE DECADE."
CHARLOTTE O'SULLIVAN, LONDON EVENING STANDARD
"THE MOST AWESOME SUPERHERO BATTLES EVER."
FRED TOPEL, CANMAG.COM
SPIDER-MAN 3
MARVEL
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AMERICA's MOST TALKED-ABOUT MOVIE!
HOW DO YOU CONVICT A MAN WHO HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVEN INNOCENT?
ANTHONY HOPKINS RYAN GOSLING

I SHOT MY WIFE...PROVE IT.
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AND IN ENHANCED PICTURE AND SOUND ON THE GIANT IMAX SCREEN AT
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
COMPLEMENT YOUR MOVIE WATCHING WITH THE SPIDER-MAN 3 MOVIE MEAL
AVAILABLE AT ALL SM CINEMA SNACK BARS NATIONWIDE
*MOVIE MEAL CONSISTS OF POPCORN, HOTDOG SANDWICH AND DRINK. PRICE MAY VARY PER BRANCH.
MTRCB RATING: G (ALL AGES ADMITTED)

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0242
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX
SPIDER-MAN 3
10:30AM 1:30PM 4:30PM 7:30PM 10:30PM
Admission Prices: P 300 (Before 5 p.m., Mon-Thu)
P 350 (After 5 p.m., Mon-Thu; Whole Day, Fri-Sun; Holidays)
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 28 WEEKS LATER
5 LUCKY YOU
6 CONDEMNED
PREMIERE CINEMA
SPIDER-MAN 3
CENTERSTAGE
SPIDER-MAN 3
THE PODIUM
CINEMA 1
SPIDER-MAN 3
CINEMA 2
SPIDER-MAN 3
633-8976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
8 SPIDER-MAN 3
9 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
10 LUCKY YOU
11 CONDEMNED
12 28 WEEKS LATER

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 28 WEEKS LATER
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 CONDEMNED
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
8 LUCKY YOU
9 SPIDER-MAN 3
10 SPIDER-MAN 3
11 SPIDER-MAN 3
12 THE SHOOTER

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 WILD HOGS
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 CONDEMNED
7 28 WEEKS LATER
8 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
9 SPIDER-MAN 3
10 SPIDER-MAN 3
11 PAN'S LABYRINTH
12 THE SHOOTER

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
7 28 WEEKS LATER
8 PAN'S LABYRINTH
9 CONDEMNED
10 THE SHOOTER

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 CONDEMNED
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 28 WEEKS LATER
3 CONDEMNED
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
8 LUCKY YOU
9 ANG CUTE NG INA MO

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 CONDEMNED
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 LUCKY YOU
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 28 WEEKS LATER
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
7 CONDEMNED
8 SPIDER-MAN 3
9 SPIDER-MAN 3
10 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
11 PAN'S LABYRINTH
12 THE SHOOTER

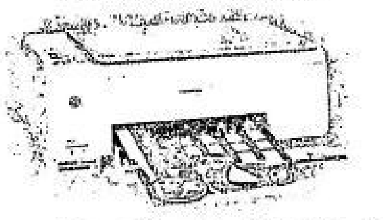
SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323301-04
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 PREMONITION
3 THE SHOOTER
4 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 PAN'S LABYRINTH
4 FIREHOUSE DOG

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 CONDEMNED

SHREK 3
OPENS MAY 16

SM CINEMA and HEWLETT-PACKARD give you a chance to print with confidence by winning cool HP C3180 printers!



Be one of the 10 lucky winners by simply sending us a drawing of how you imagine Shrek's baby will look like!

Contest is open for kids aged 3 to 12. E-mail drawings at promos@smcinema.com on or before May 25, 2007 (Friday). 10 drawings will be chosen from all the entries received. Each will win one (1) HP C3180 printer. Winners will be notified by a phone call from an authorized representative of SM Cinema on how to claim their prize.

Special Thanks to:
hp vivera

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SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 CONDEMNED
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 SPIDER-MAN 3
7 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
8 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 GRAY MATTERS
5 THE SHOOTER
6 THE LAST MIMZY

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SUNSHINE
4 PREMONITION

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637081-85
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 THE SHOOTER
4 SPIDER-MAN 3
5 THE LAST MIMZY
6 ANG CUTE NG INA MO

SM CIY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 ANG CUTE NG INA MO
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 SUNSHINE

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 PREMONITION
4 THE REAPING

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 THE SHOOTER
3 ROCKY BALBOA
4 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3100
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 LUCKY YOU
4 28 WEEKS LATER

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 PREMONITION
3 THE SHOOTER
4 SPIDER-MAN 3

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 THE SHOOTER
3 PREMONITION
4 TURISTAS
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 MISS POTTER
4 THE REAPING

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 THE LAST MIMZY
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 SPIDER-MAN 3
4 THE SHOOTER
5 SPIDER-MAN 3
6 THE REAPING
7 RESERVED
8 GRAY MATTERS

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 PREMONITION
4 GRAY MATTERS
5 TURISTAS
6 THE SHOOTER
7 SPIDER-MAN 3
8 SPIDER-MAN 3

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 SPIDER-MAN 3
2 SPIDER-MAN 3
3 PREMONITION
4 THE REAPING

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Big fun in a little package

OUT OF THE CLOSET

By Marinel R. Cruz and Jacky A. Oiga
Photos by Rudy Esperas

cute... but psycho.

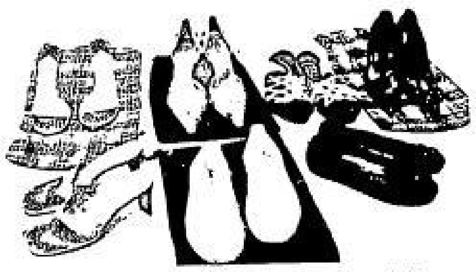
"NOT!" she laughs.

"CUTE BUT PSYCHO." THIS IS WHAT her T-shirt says, but sexy actress Joyce Jimenez insists she's not like that at all.

"I just think its super funny when people look at me and say, 'Okay, you admit you're a psycho.' Don't boys sometimes say girls are psycho?" Joyce tells Living Stars during this rare visit to the INQUIRER office in Makati City.

However, she adds, one other shirt describes her best: "It says, 'Big Fun in a Little Package.' I'm petite but I'm a lot of fun. I'm very *kenkoy*."

When it comes to clothes, Joyce says, "I'm very organized and *medyo* OC." She makes sure her shirts are stored according to brand, color and style. Her shoes are stored in specially-made boxes labeled with pictures.



"I never buy expensive footwear at full price," says the shoe collector.

FOOTWEAR

My *maarte* shoes are from Steve Madden. (shows pointed pumps with colorful embroidery) I'm one of the stingiest persons in the world. I will never buy shoes at full price. I wait patiently [for a sale]. I got these for $60. How much is that here, P3,000?

THE rosary is a gift from mom, bought in Rome

HALTER top from Sta. Monica

My workout shoes are Pumas. They're very light. I don't need socks with them. That's good because when I do ab workouts, at least the weight is less.

These are what I call my "pok-pok" shoes (shows a pair of pointed red pumps). I usually don't like red, but I found these so cute—my "Lady of the Night" shoes.

You wear things like these when nothing else will do. I've worn them to awards nights and when I couldn't find anything to match a stupid outfit. I wish I had bought two pairs; that's how much I love these shoes.

These brown flats used to be my favorite until my dog chewed them up. They're actually my newest pair.

TOPS

This T-shirt is memorable to me because it came from Griffith University (in Australia) where I graduated from. It's really ugly. I hate it, but it's memorable.

My favorite from my own Private Joyce collection is this brown lingerie top. It's dual-purpose. I wear it with jeans when I go on gimmicks. Later, if I didn't wear it for too long, I just take off my jeans and wear it to sleep. *Tamad 'di ba*? This actually comes with underwear.

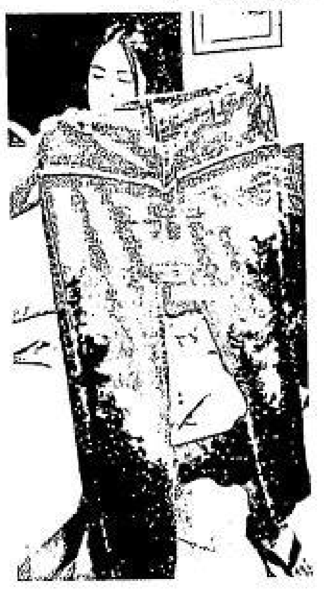
These halter tops are gifts from my manager, *Tita* Shirley (Kuan). I think she got this from Sta. Monica in California. I wore one of these in "Ano Ba'ng Meron Ka?" with Diether Ocampo. They're so cute, like bandanas that you just wrap around you and tie at the back.

BAGS

This is my everyday bag (shows a brown suede shoulder bag). I use it when I have tapings. *Artistas* like me bring tons of things, so this is perfect for me. I've had this for two years. It's super sturdy.

This is one of my favorite purses. It's so cute that you can't put anything in it more than a cell phone and credit cards. I love it because it has a big letter J on it—for Juicy. I love everything from Juicy because of that.

My Gucci bag is special because it's a gift from my best friend, Trish Panlilio. She has one exactly like this. When I first saw it, I said, "*Ay ang* cute *naman*!" So she sent one to my house. I can match it with anything casual.



CLUTCH from Juicy, left, and her favorite carry-all

BLUE jeans with a perfect fit

SWIMWEAR

All my two-piece bikinis are kept in Ziplock bags. I have a hundred bikinis—imagine if they were all in one place. I wouldn't be able to know which piece goes with what. Ziplocks also come in handy for [stowing] wet bikinis.

This brown two-piece from Marks and Spencer is what I wore for my 2000 calendar shoot in Boracay; I posed in front of a rock.

The floral pair I wore during my first "Extra Challenge" shoot is from Private Joyce. I like it because, although it's skimpy, I don't worry that things would peek and fly out.

The black pair, also from Private Joyce, is super comfortable. Not too skimpy, and perfect not only for swimming but also for just walking on the beach. I like it because it still looked good on me when I was *mataba*.

JACKETS

This knitted mauve jacket is special. I never had anything in this color before. It's super comfy, and super cheap. I got it for $2. I'm such a bargain hunter.

I love this one (shows a blue-and-brown dri-fit piece) because it's made of thin fabric but really keeps me warm.

ACCESSORIES

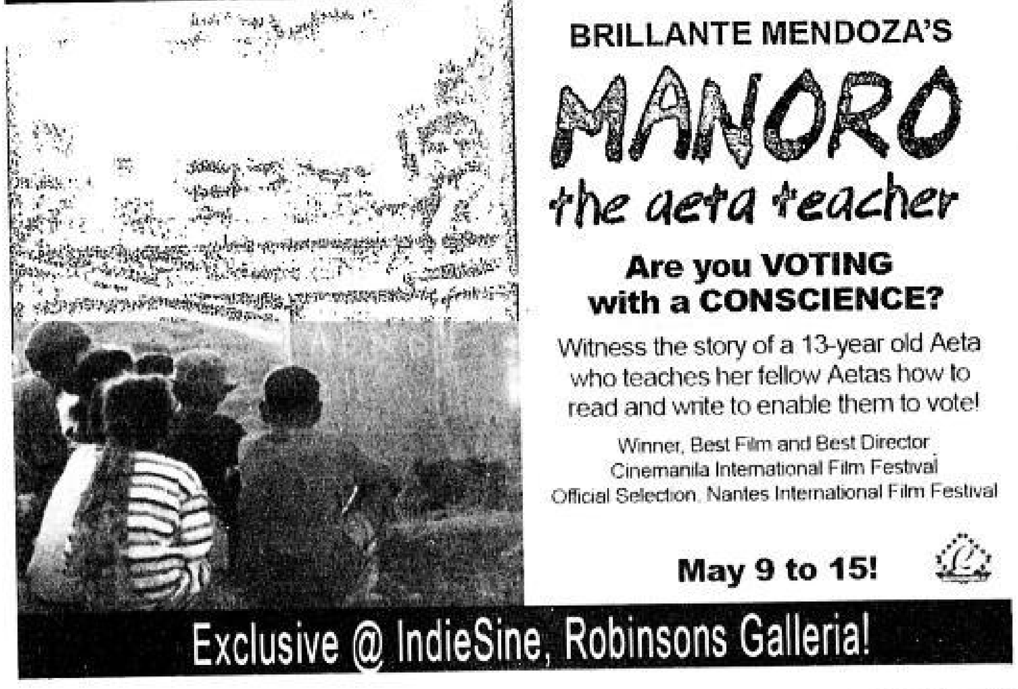
My company recently launched Joyce Jewels. The ones I'm showing you, I used for one of my FHM shoots. I can use it with both casual and formal wear. They're really exclusive and not in the stores yet—we're selling them through shop TV.

"MY MOST prized possession," Joyce says of her MacBook.

DRI-FIT jacket best worn during workouts

HER favorite summer dress, from Forever 21

NOW SHOWING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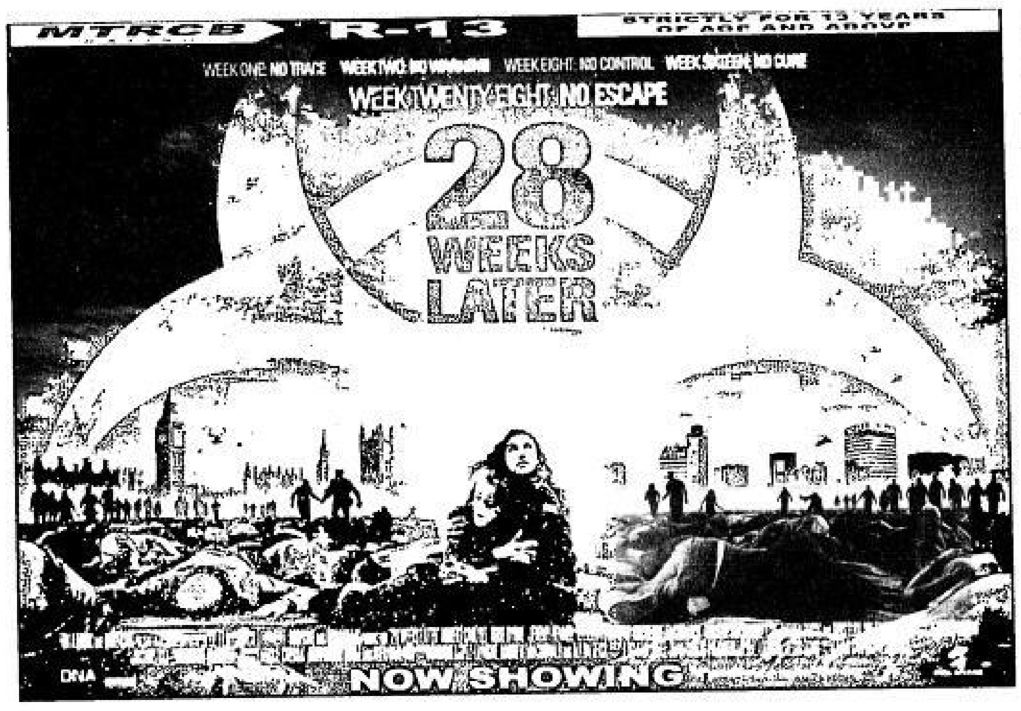
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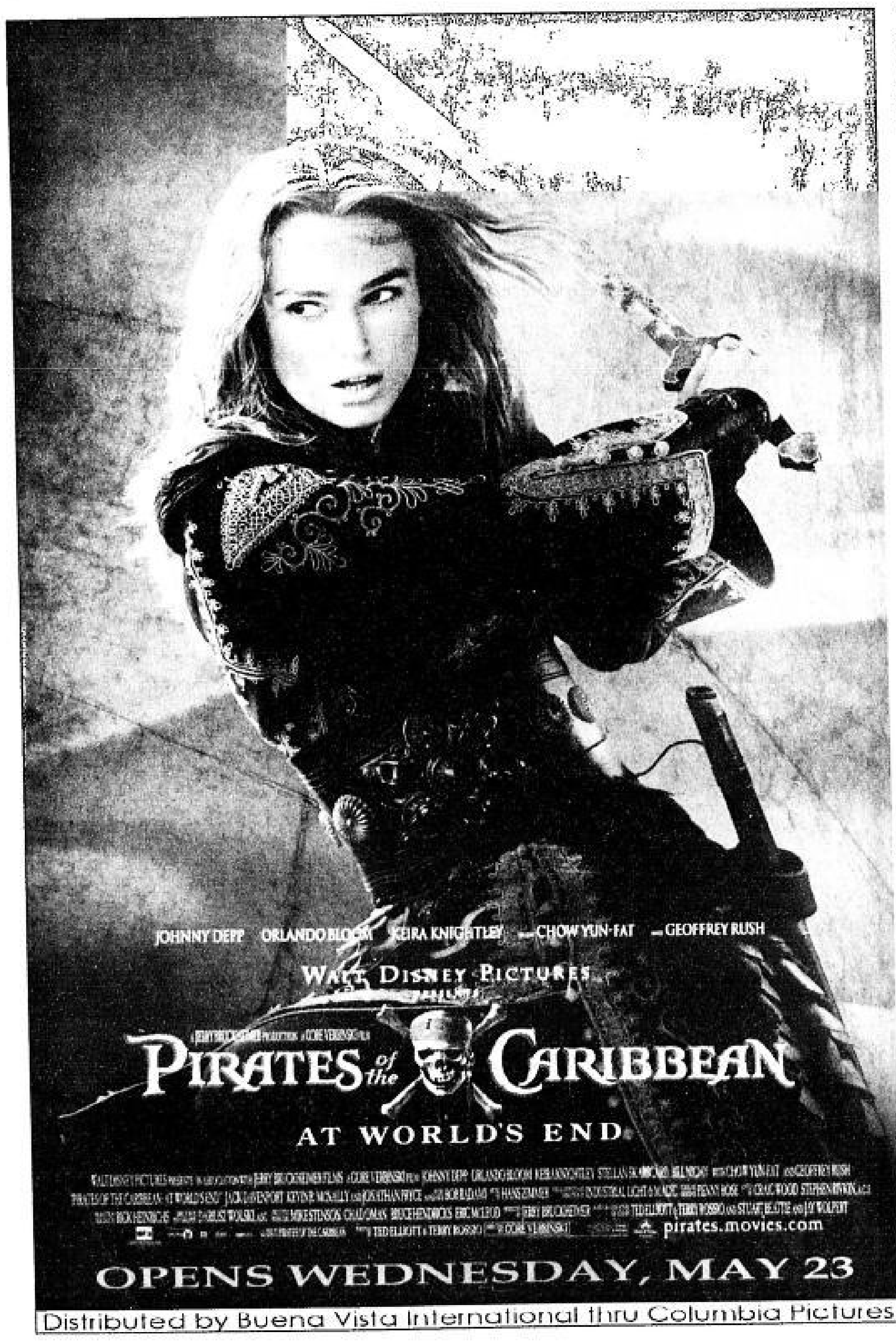
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WALT DISNEY PICTURES
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AT WORLD'S END
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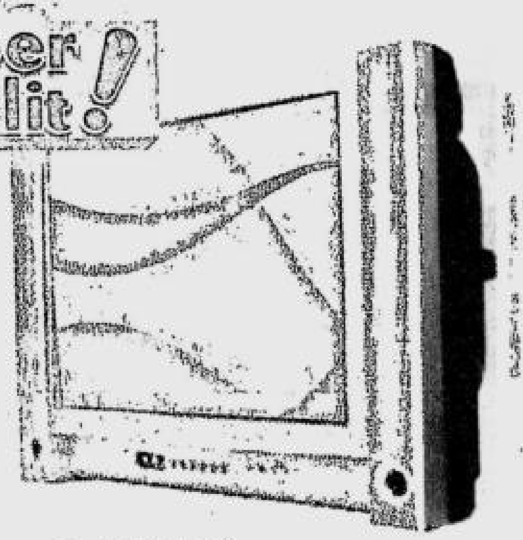

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P 6,395

2

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3 Free Fan

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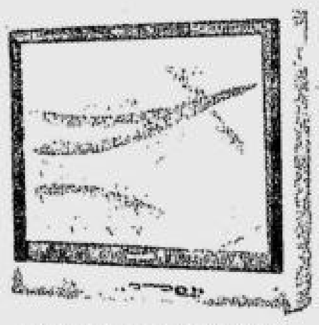

SHARP 21V FR95S
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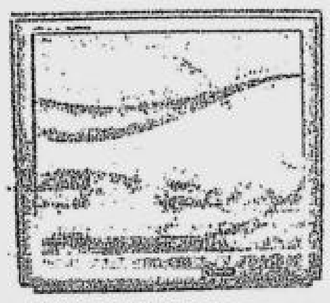

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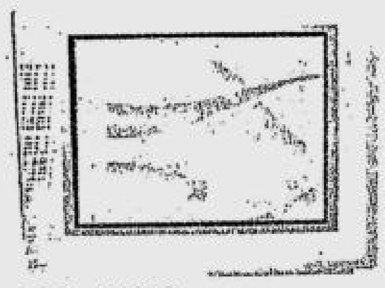

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PANASONIC 21PT5006
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ADD P1,500 for a DVD
FREE TV Rack

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PHILIPS TC 29FX20P
29" Flat TV
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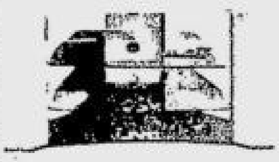
P 22,999

5 Free TV Rack



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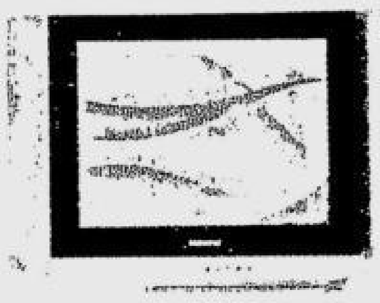

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FREE TV Rack

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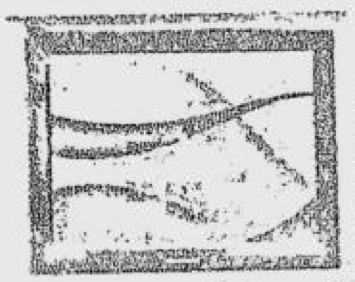

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Plus WIN [illegible] 5 [illegible] P50,000

BPI Cardholders [illegible]

[illegible] every P3,000 single receipt purchase using BPI Express Credit card made at Abenson, [illegible], Homeplus, Avant and Abac entitles [illegible] three (3) raffle coupons and [illegible] single receipt purchase [illegible] Supermarket entitles [illegible]

HURRY! The more entries, the more chances of winning the Ultimate Home Makeover!

DTI-NCR Permit No. 1600 Series of 2007

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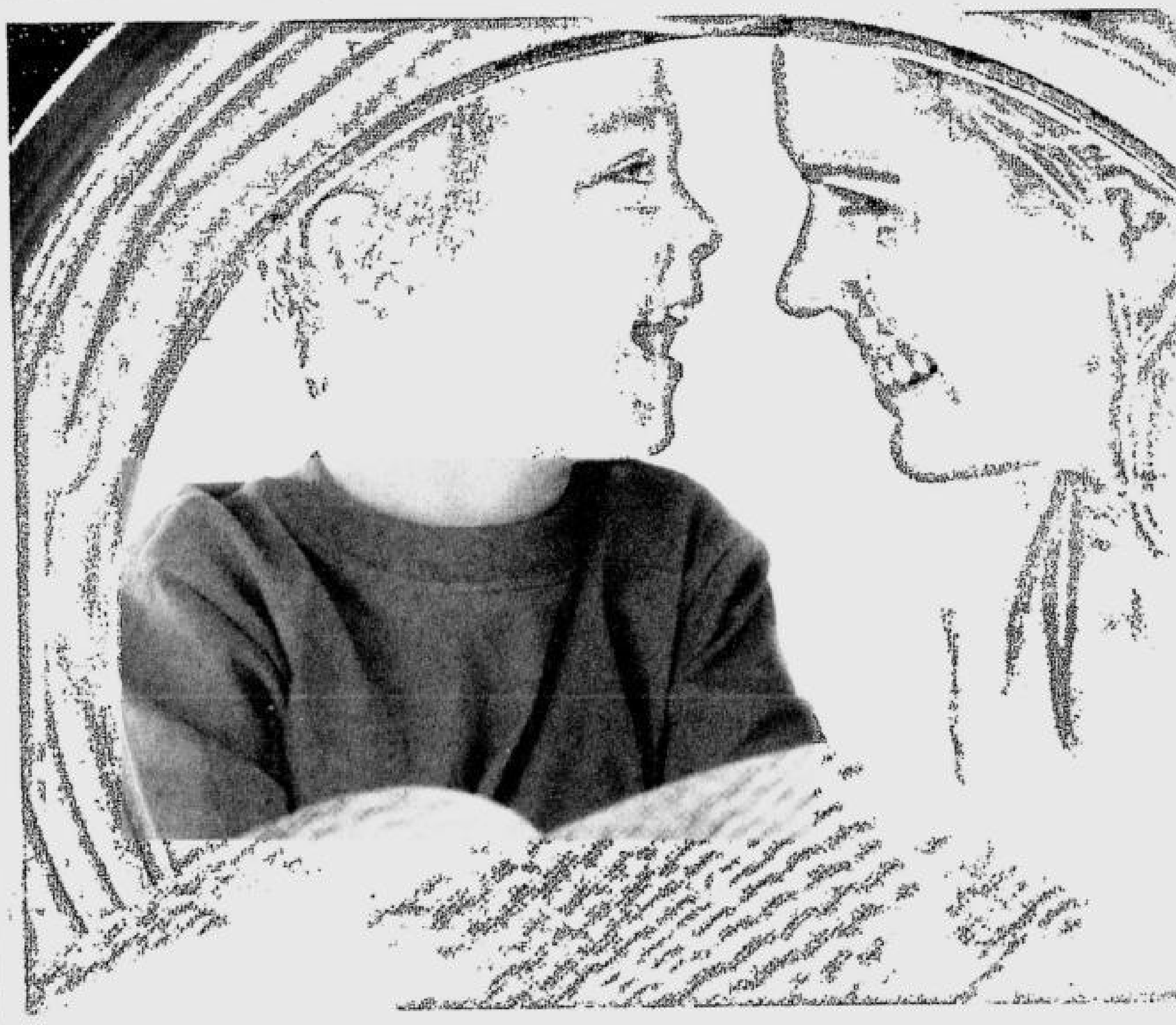

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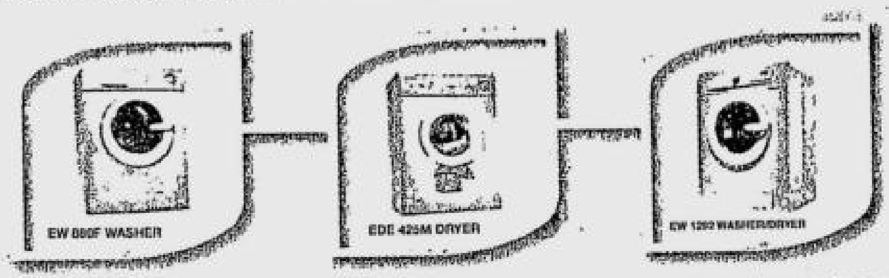
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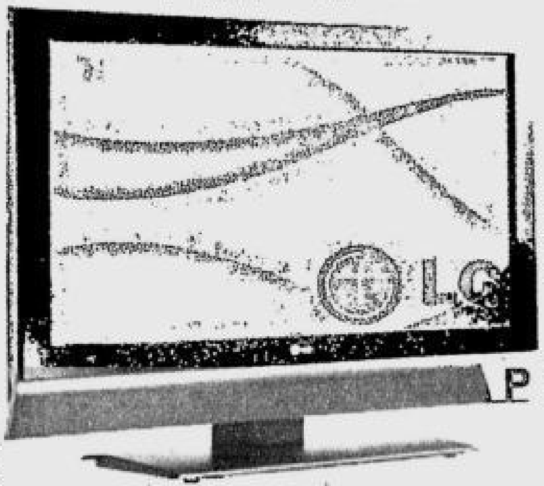

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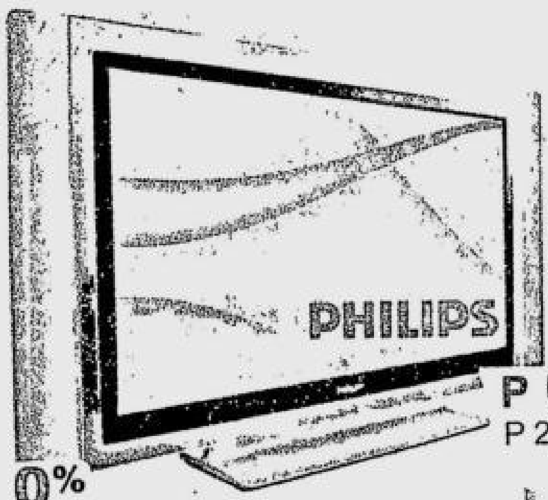

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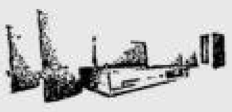

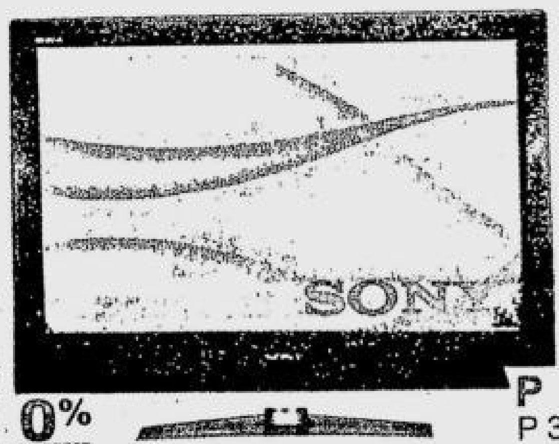

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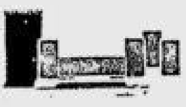

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127cm (50") Plasma TV with Pixel Plus 2HD and Ambilight 2 channel
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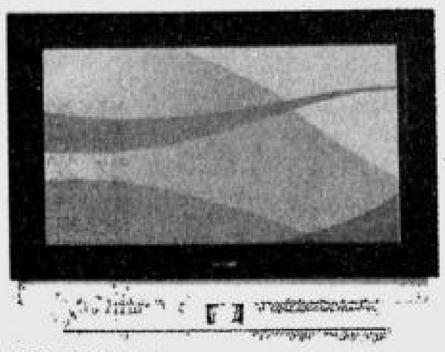
P 289,980



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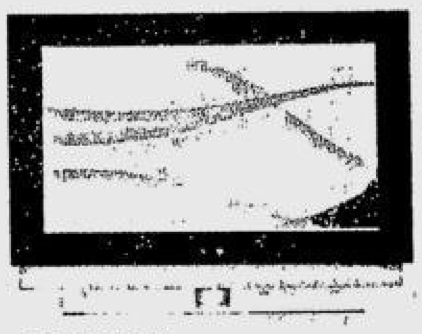
Home Theater System
P 189,980



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81.28cm (32") LCD TV with Pixel Plus 2HD and Ambilight 2 channel
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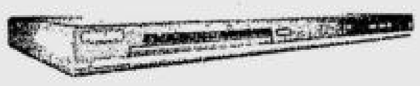

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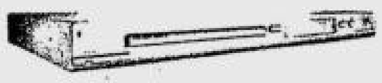

DVP3026K
DVD Player with 6 Channel Out
P 2,990

PET830
Portable DVD Player
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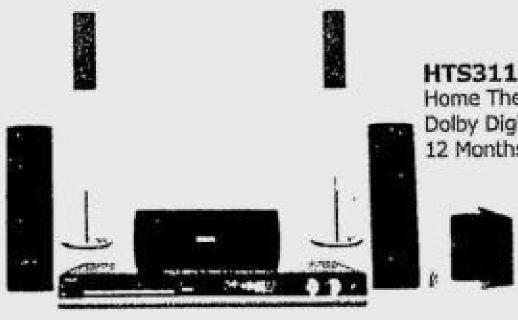
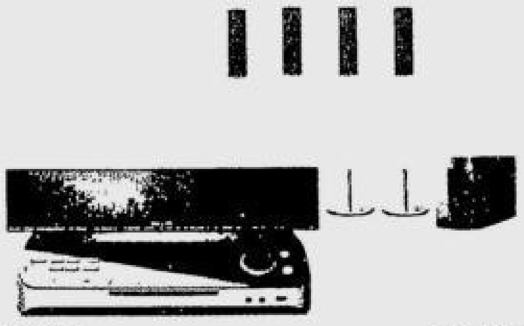


HTS3110
Home Theater System with DTS, Dolby Digital and Pro Logic 11, Karaoke
12 Months 0% interest
P 16,990

HTS9800
Home Theater System with 6.1
Dolby Digital Ex, HDMI, Wireless rear speaker
12 Months 0% interest
FREE P3,000 GC (for cash buyer)
P 49,990



HTS4750
Home Theater System with HDMI, DTS, Dolby Digital and Pro Logic 11, Karaoke
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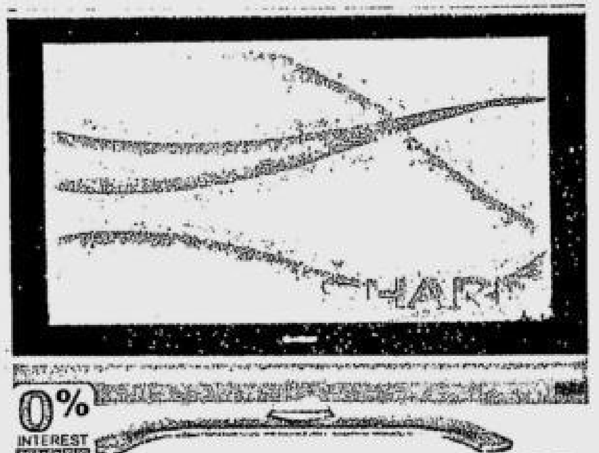

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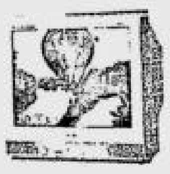

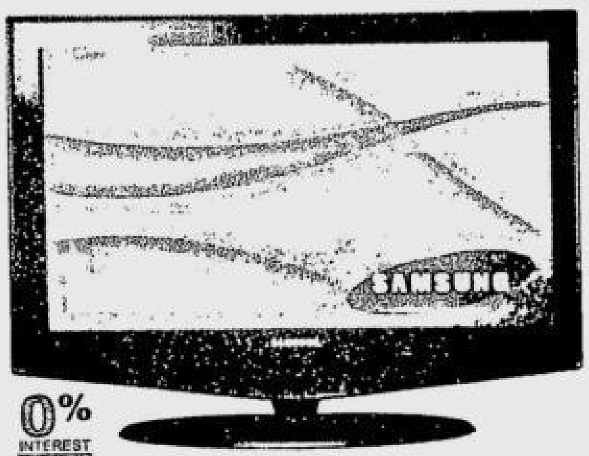

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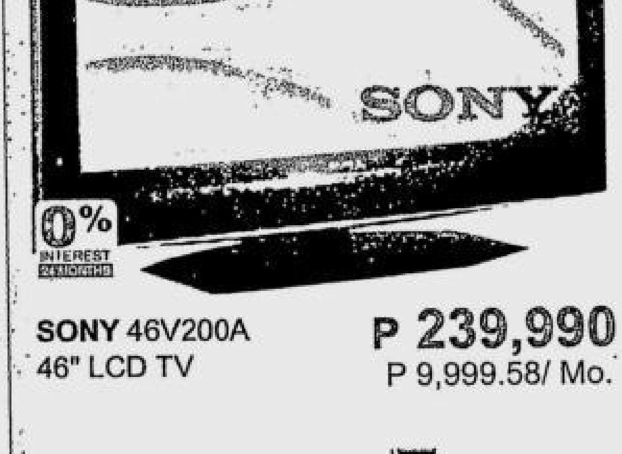
P 11,241.66/ Mo.

ADD P 5000 for a Home Theater



0% INTEREST 24 MONTHS

SONY 46V200A
46" LCD TV
P 239,990
P 9,999.58/ Mo.

AVAIL GEAR-UP YOUR
BRAVIA VOUCHERS

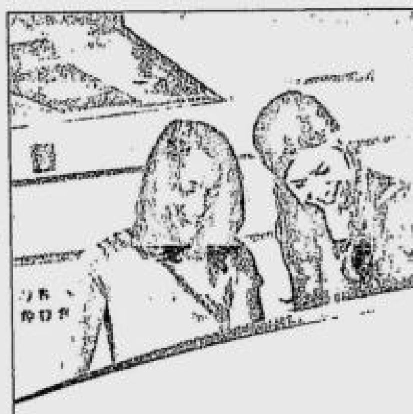
0% INTEREST 24 MONTHS

SAMSUNG 46S81B
46" LCD TV
P 179,900
P 7,495.83/ Mo.

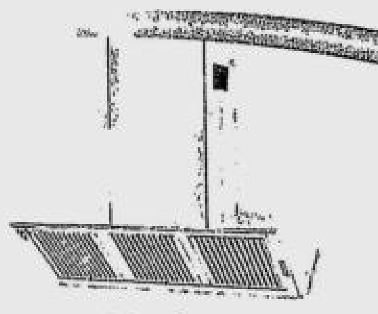
ADD P 15000 for a Home Theater

Performance Beyond Compare

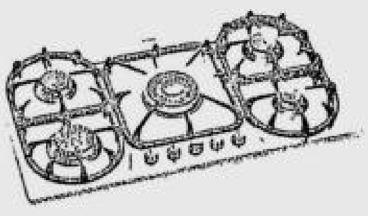
BUILT-IN SERIES by *laGERMANIA*



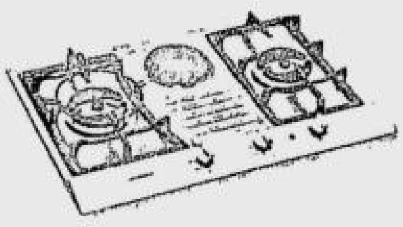
4 Series
No. of Motors: 1,2
No. of Speeds: 3
Illumination: 2x40 W incandescent lamps
Grease Filter: synthetic



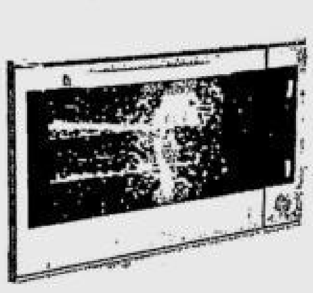
Techno Island
No. of Motors: 1
No. of Speeds: 4 + intensive
Illumination: 3x20 W spotlights
Grease Filter: baffle



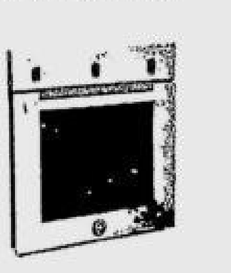
P910 1TX
- 4 Gas burners, 1 high energy triple ring burner
- Flame-failure safety device
- Instant auto-ignition integrated in each knob



DH-621X
- 2 Gas burners, 1 electric hotplate
- Flame-failure safety device on all burners
- 3-Setting knob
- Microswitch electronic ignition



F969 D5X
- Separate thermostat electronic programmer
- Self cleaning
- Multifunction oven: 9 settings, fan assisted
- Auto shut off



F650 D5X
- Separate thermostat
- Chrome support , fan andgrease filter
- Multifunction oven: 5 settings, fan assisted
- Auto shut off

Available at:
ABENSON
Appliance Center

• Abenson Rosario Cavite • Abenson Greenhills • Abenson Circle C • Abenson Cubao • Abenson Ever Gotesco Commonwealth • Abenson Fairview • Abenson Farmers Plaza • Abenson Los • Abenson Quezon City • Abenson SM City North Edsa • Abenson Robinsons Galleria • Abenson Angeles • Abenson Bay City • Abenson Pavilion • Abenson Nueva Ecija • Abenson Sta Lucia • Abenson Calamba • Abenson Araneta Square • Abenson Ever Gotesco • Abenson Carmona • Abenson Dasmarinas • Abenson General Trias • Abenson Lotus • Abenson Robinsons Place Imus • Abenson Las Pinas • Abenson Lipa • Abenson Lucena • Abenson Dau • Abenson Avant Greenbelt • Abenson Makati • Abenson Quad • Abenson Alabang • Abenson Harvest • Abenson Metropolis • Abenson Pearl Plaza • Abenson Pasig • Abenson Ever Gotesco • Abenson Pandel

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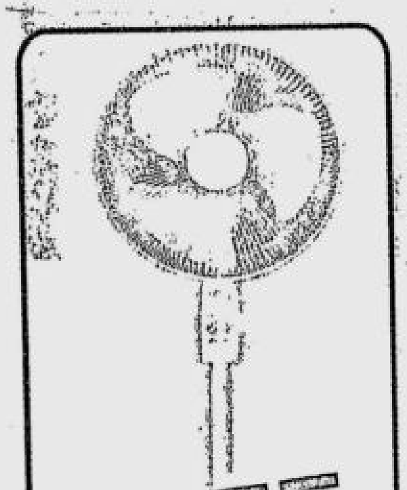
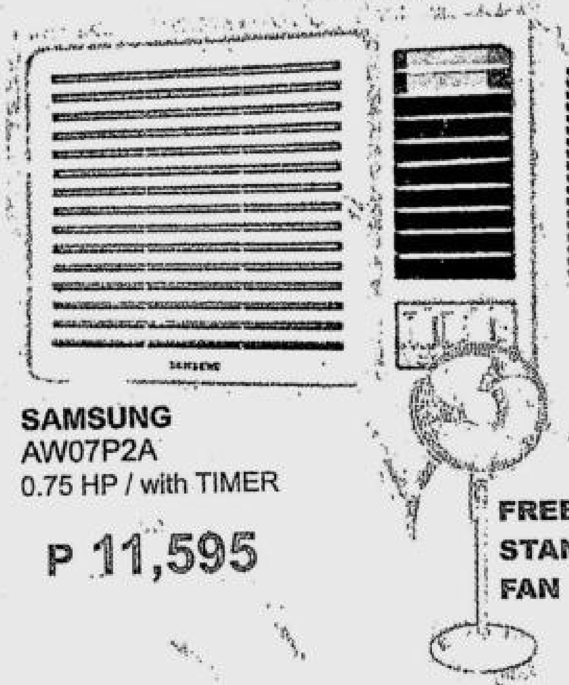
ABENSON

3 Exciting Aircon Deals



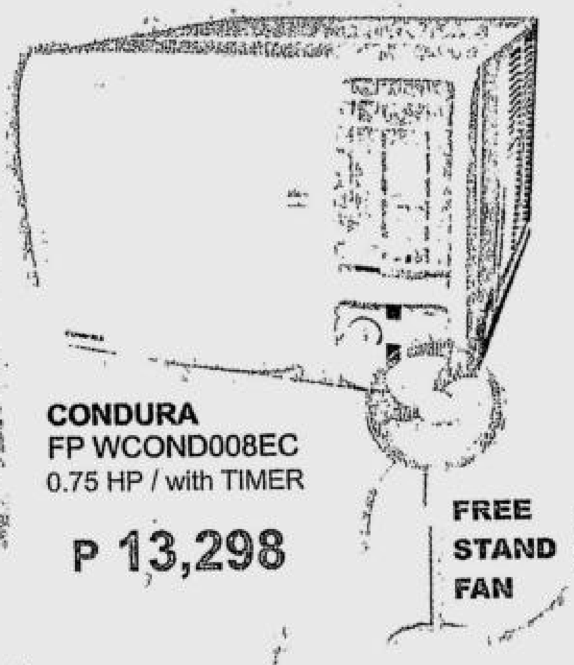
FREE
Stand Fan on Aircons!
*PARTICIPATING MODELS ON CASH PURCHASE



SAMSUNG
AW07P2A
0.75 HP / with TIMER

P 11,595

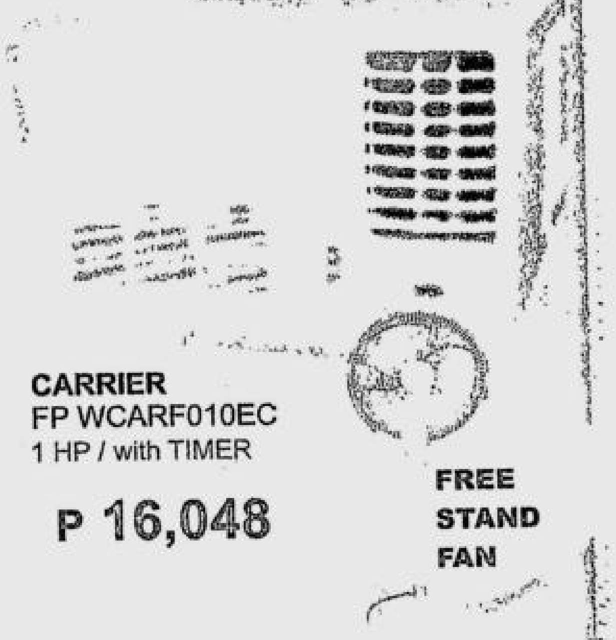
FREE STAND FAN



CONDURA
FP WCOND008EC
0.75 HP / with TIMER

P 13,298

FREE STAND FAN



CARRIER
FP WCARF010EC
1 HP / with TIMER

P 16,048

FREE STAND FAN

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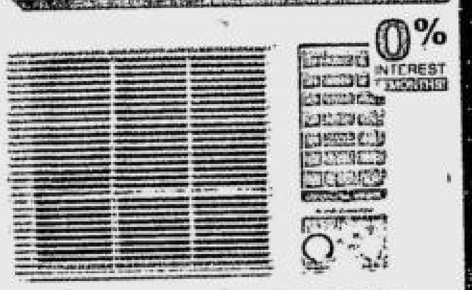
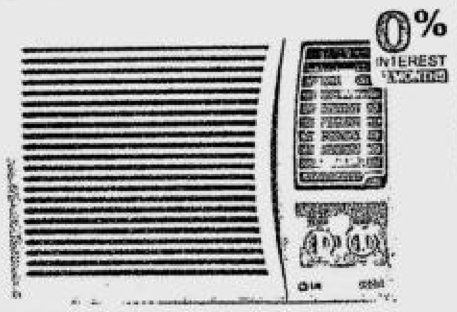
Deal 2
Enjoy 0% interest up to 12 Months!



0% INTEREST

KELVINATOR FP WKELJ010EA
1 HP / Manual

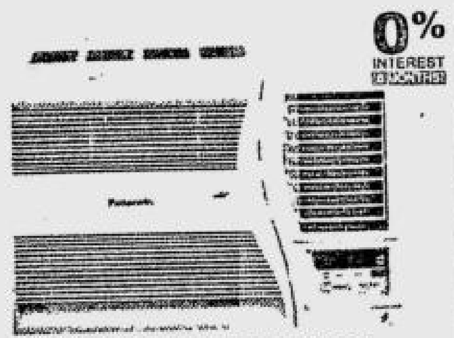
P 11,498
P 1,916.33/ Mo.



0% INTEREST

LG LA100MG
1 HP / Manual

P 13,398
P 1,116.5/ Mo.



0% INTEREST

PANASONIC CW SC103VPH
1 HP / Manual

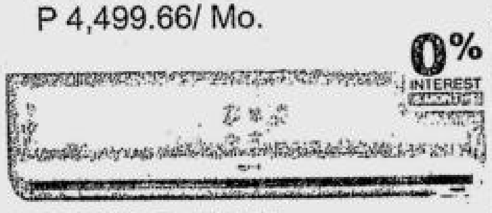
P 15,299
P 2,549.83/ Mo.

FREE Decorative Frame and Mug Set

0% INTEREST

WHIRLPOOL ASK 12
1.5 HP / EER 10

P 26,998
P 4,499.66/ Mo.

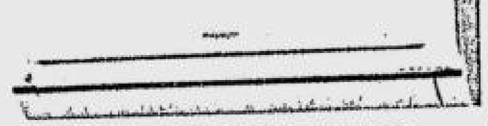


0% INTEREST

KOLIN KSG-10B1M
1 HP / EER 11.5

P 20,398
P 3,399.67/ Mo.

Deal 3
Installation Discount



PANASONIC CS/U-XC12EKQ
1.5 HP / EER 11.5

SAVE: P 12, 504

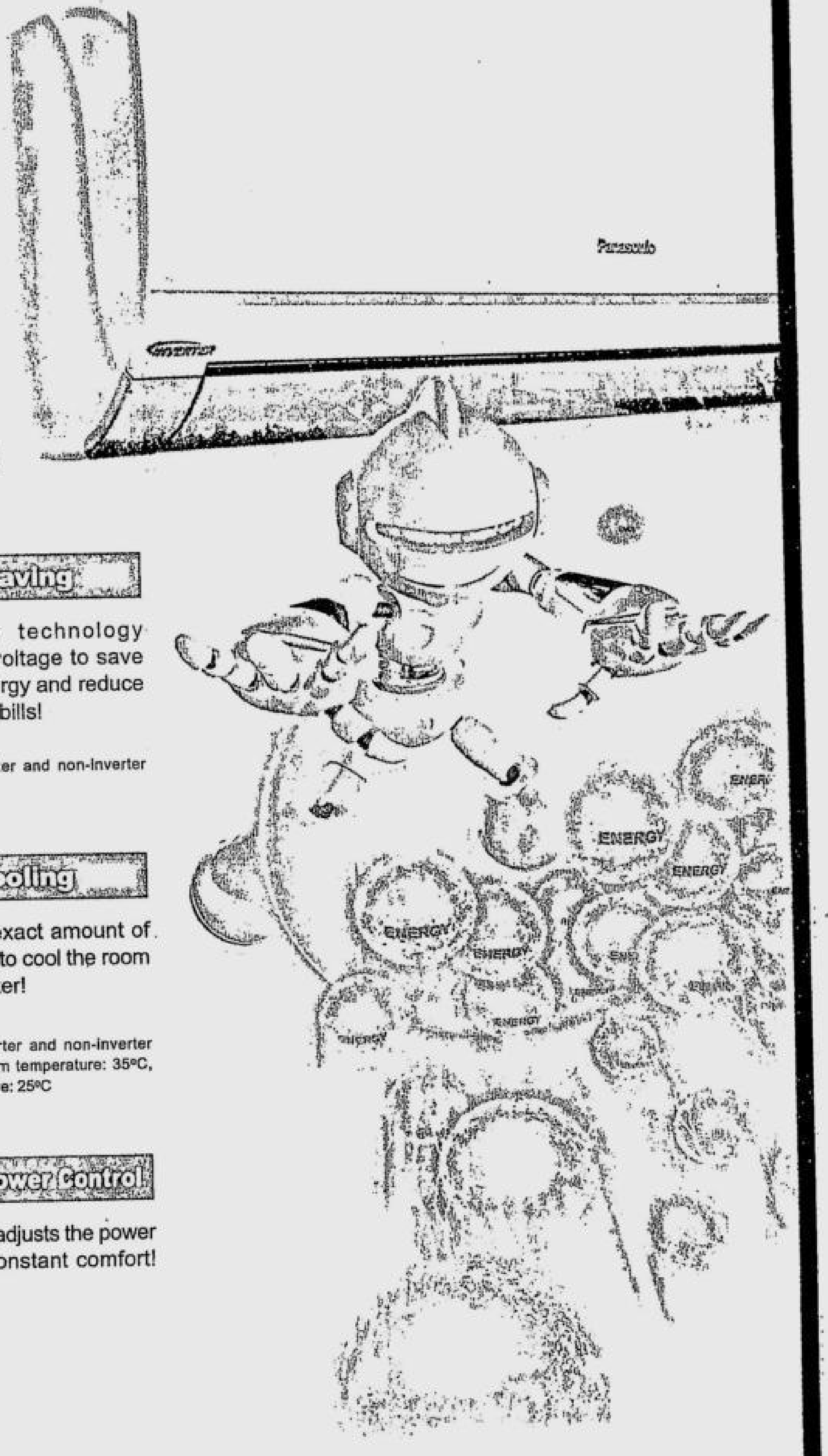
Before: P 42,999
Now: P 30,495

Panasonic
ideas for life

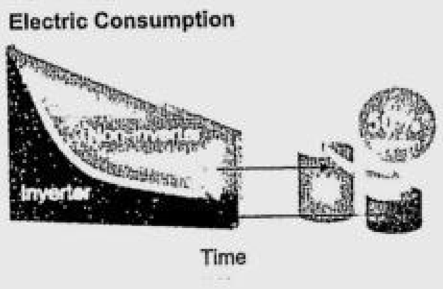
envio i2
Environmental Innovation

BATTLES High Energy Usage and Airborne Dust!

Breathe and live better with ENVIO i2! Panasonic's new inverter air conditioner has better voltage control, giving you more savings than any other inverter type. Experience true comfort today at lower costs!



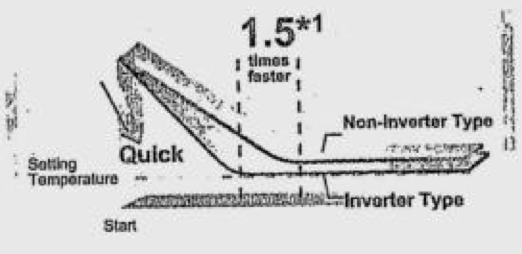
NEW INVERTER
Saves up to 50% *energy!



Energy Saving

The inverter technology regulates the voltage to save up to 50%* energy and reduce your electricity bills!

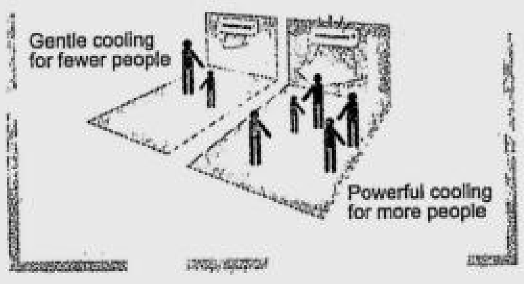
* 12,000 Btu inverter and non-inverter comparison.



Quick Cooling

Provides the exact amount of power needed to cool the room 1.5*1 times faster!

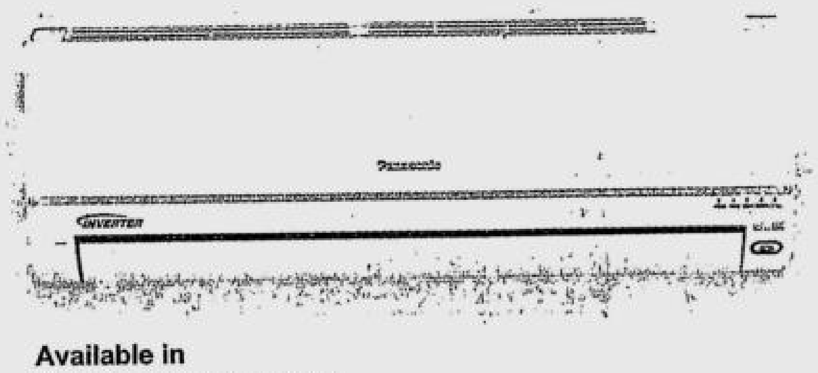
* 12,000 Btu inverter and non-inverter comparison. Room temperature: 35ºC, Setting temperature: 25ºC



Gentle cooling for fewer people
Powerful cooling for more people

Flexible Power Control

Automatically adjusts the power to maintain constant comfort!



Available in
CS/CU-S12GKQ (1.5hp),
CS/CU-S15GKQ (1.75hp)

FREE Installation Package* + Sports Bag +Sports Bottle + Sports Towel

Panasonic
Air Conditioner

*includes:
- 3.05m (10 ft.) copper tube & insulation
- Drain hose
- Labor cost for back to back installation

Available at all dealers with promo posters. See posters for details. Promo Period: March 1 - June 30, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0705 Series of 2007

ABENSON

Cool Refrigerator

FREE

Kettle on Refrigerators!

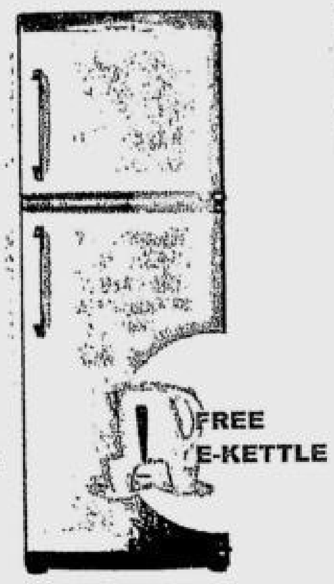
*PARTICIPATING MODELS ON CASH PURCHASE

FREE
KETTLE

WHITE WESTINGHOUSE
WR3606 DT SX
12 C.F. No Frost
P 31,700

FREE
E-KETTLE

WHIRLPOOL
WSG-95
9 C.F. No Frost
P 21,648


FREE
E-KETTLE

KELVINATOR
KTD-300MN
9 C.F.
P 17,599

FREE
E-KETTLE

CONDURA
CTD-300MN
9 C.F.
P 16,595

ADD P1,000
Get
MWO MS194W

LG
GR-U212RL
7 C.F. No Frost
P 14,448

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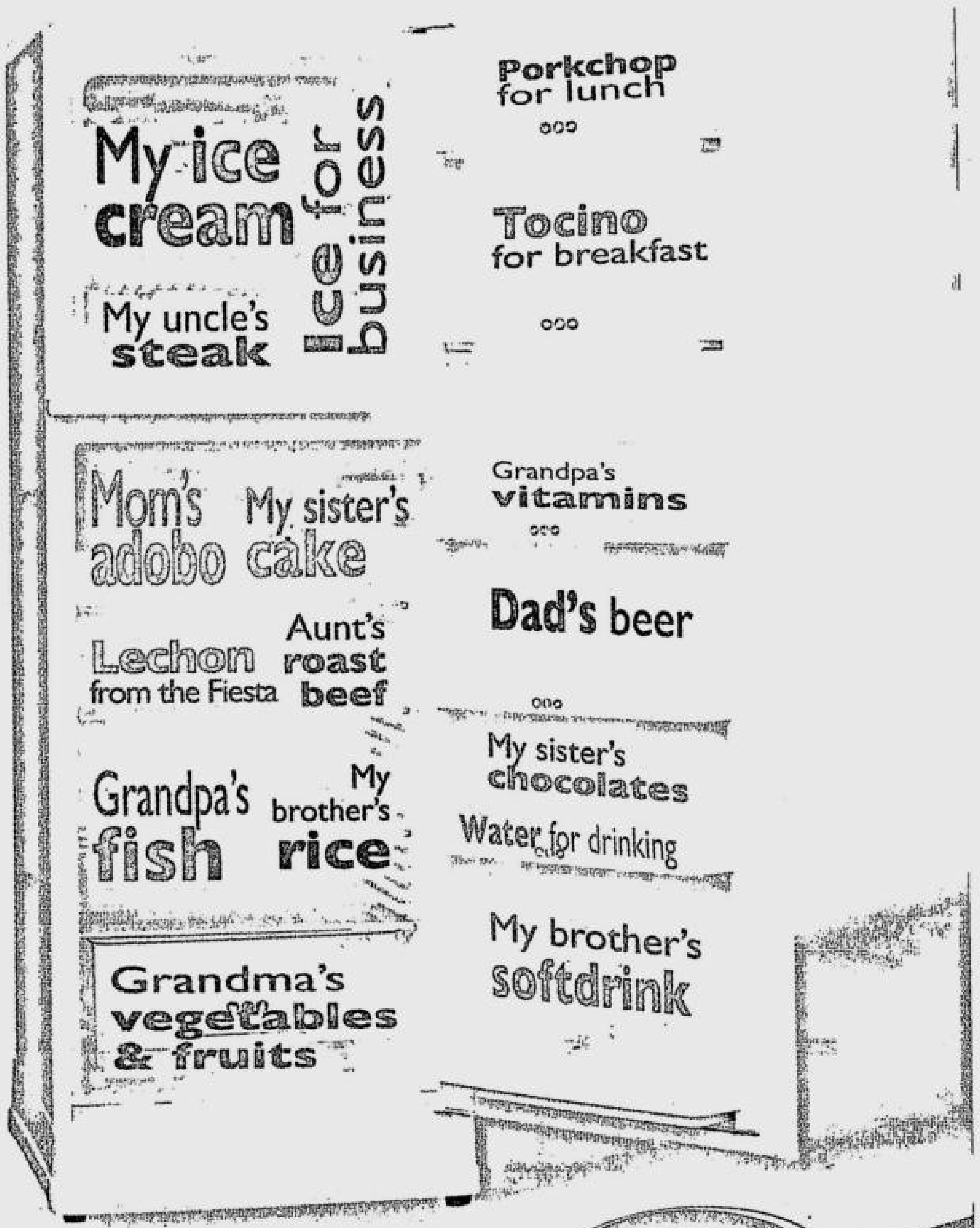
BIG & SPACIOUS

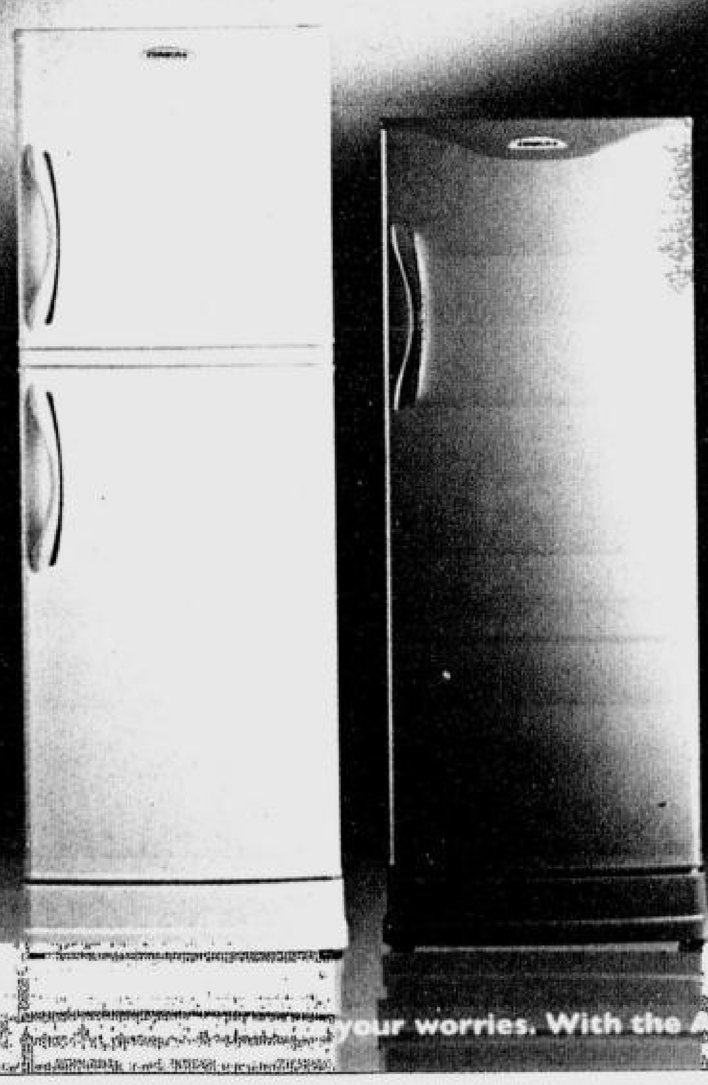
There's room for everything.


My ice cream
Ice for business
My uncle's steak
Porkchop for lunch
Tocino for breakfast
Mom's adobo
My sister's cake
Lechon from the Fiesta
Aunt's roast beef
Grandpa's fish
My brother's rice
Grandma's vegetables & fruits
Grandpa's vitamins
Dad's beer
My sister's chocolates
Water for drinking
My brother's softdrink

CONDURA

Built Tough For The Filipino Lifestyle

The All-New 2007 Condura



BIGGEST FREEZER AND CHILLER

It has the biggest freezer and chiller that let you keep bigger quantities of food and stuff, maximizing your refrigerator space.

Only Condura has Store More™, which gives you an exclusive 2-liter bottle shelf, tilting wire racks with multiple adjustments and adjustable door shelves, allowing hundreds of storage combinations to suit the Filipino family's lifestyle.

DURABODY

Durabody makes Condura extremely tough and durable. It also has anti-rust features, 12-stage powder paint, thick layer of galvanized steel, industrial strength foam insulation and ABS plastic.

2 The only brand with FREE 2-YEAR WARRANTY!

FREE 2-YEAR WARRANTY*

You're assured of quality with its 2-year warranty – an offer unique only to Condura. Its 24-Hour Call Center will tend to your needs 24/7. Plus, it's from one of the trusted brands in the country.

HIGH EEF

Condura has one of the highest Energy Efficient Factor (EEF) that helps you save more by consuming less electricity.

** Available to 2007 models only.*
5-year warranty on the compressor.

[illegible] your worries. With the All-New 2007 Condura [illegible]